View here his Shadowe whose Laborious Quill
By Sacred Chymistry doth Balm Distill
To Calm ye Persecuting Spirits Rage
And mixe Delight with Profit in each Page

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A

Looking-glaſs

FOR

PERSECUTORS;

CONTAINING

Multitudes of EXAMPLES of God's Severe, but Righteous JUDGMENTS, upon bloody and mercileſs Haters of his Children in all Times, from the beginning of the World to this preſent Age.

COLLECTED

Out of the Sacred Scriptures, and other Eccleſiaſtical Writers, both Ancient and Modern.

By *Sam. Clarke*, Miniſter.

God judgeth the Righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every Day: If he turn not, he will whet his Sword: He hath bent his Bow, and made it ready: He hath alſo prepared for him the Inſtruments of Death: He ordaineth his Arrows againſt the Perſecutors, Pſal. 7. 11, 12, 13.

London, Printed for *William Miller*, at the Sign of the *Gilded Acorn*, near the little North Door in St. *Paul's* Church-Yard, 1674.

TO THE
Christian Reader.

I Know well that this is a very tender Subject about which I am now writing. For,

——————The Ancients made
Divine Revenge to be a Child of Night,
Shut to the Earth, but ope' to Heavens sight.

There are two sorts of Persons which err about the Judgments of God: The one of such who will not take any notice of them, be they never so plain and conspicuous. Of such the Prophet complains, Esay 26. 11. Lord, when thy

Hand is lifted up, they will not see: but they shall see. *These are stupid, and blockish Persons: For (saith the Prophet, verse 9.)* When thy Judgments are in the Earth, the Inhabitants of the World *will (or at least should)* learn Righteousness. *The other sort are of such as are too* Critical, *and censorious in judging of God's Providential Dispensations, as if they were punishments for sin, when God hath other excellent ends in them: This was the fault of Christ's Disciples,* John 9. 2. *When they saw a man that was blind from his Birth:* Master *(say they)* Who did sin? This Man, or his Parents, that he was born blind? *To whom our Saviour answered,* Neither hath this Man sinned, nor his Parents: But that the Works of God should be made manifest in him.

But notwithstanding these Errors, both on the Right and Left Hand, there must be an humble, sober, and prudent taking

taking notice of God's Judgments that we may make a right construction of them. The Apostle St. Paul, *having recorded the dreadful Examples of God's wrath upon the sinful* Israelites *in the Wilderness* (1 Cor. 10. 5. &c.) *concludes* (*verse* 11.) Now all these things happened unto them for Ensamples: And they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the World are come. *God himself also hath appointed the recording and observation of such Judgments,* That all Israel may hear, and fear, and do no more any such wickedness, *Deut.* 13. 11.

Obj. But do we not often see, that great and violent Persecutors live long, and prosper in the World, as if they rather merited a reward, than procured God's wrath against them for it?

Ans. *It's true.* 1. *God's Judgments upon many Persecutors are more spiritual, and so less conspicuous, and visible*

to the eye of the World: As when God gives them up to blindness of mind, hardness of heart, a cauterized conscience, and a reprobate sence, which of all other Judgments are the most dreadful, Hos. 4. 17.

2. *All the while they escape with impunity, they are but* treasuring up wrath against the Day of wrath, and revelation of the righteous Judgment of God, *Rom.* 2. 5. *For* it's a righteous thing with God to recompence tribulation to them that trouble *and persecute his People*, 2 Thes. 1. 6. *Hence*, Job 31. 3. Is not destruction to the wicked? And a strange punishment to the workers of iniquity? *God doth record and register such wicked mens sins against the Day of Judgment. He writes them in a Book with* a Pen of Iron, and the Point of a Diamond, *Jer.* 17. 1. *He* seals them up in a Bag, *Job* 14. 17. *As a Clerk of the Assizes seals up the Indictments, and at the Assizes opens his Bag,*

Bag, and produceth them, Deut. 32. 34. *Yet God in all Ages hath taken some of these Persecutors, and hung them up in Chains, as Spectacles of his wrath, for a warning unto others. And howsoever such, by reason of God's patience and forbearance, may dream of impunity; yet let them know that Judgments are never nearer than when they are least feared. A great Calm is many times the fore-runner of a Storm, when men cry* Peace, Peace, *then comes sudden and swift destruction*, 1 Thes. 5. 3. *When* Agag *said in his Heart*, Surely the bitterness of Death is past, *then came* Samuel *and hewed him in pieces. When the* Old World *was eating, drinking, buying, building, Persecuting, and snorting in security; then came the* Flood, *and destroyed them: When men be at* ease in Sion, *there is a* Wo *denounced against them*, Amos 6. 1. *to the* 8. *When men look at Judgments as a far off, then God will defer no longer*, Ezek. 12. 27. 28. *When the* Philistins

Philistins *met together to be merry and to sport themselves with* Sampson, (*whose eyes they had put out*) *he brought the House upon their Heads, and slew them all.*

Now God executes Judgments upon some wicked Persecutors; but these are but Præludia futuri Judicii, *Tokens and fore-runners of that Great and General Judgment. Some are now punished* (*saith one*) *as the* Old World, Sodom, Egypt, Jerusalem, &c. *that we may know that there is a Providence taking notice of all: Yet all are not punished, that we may know there is a Judgment to come, to which the wicked are reserved,* 2 Pet. 2. 10. *Here God's way is in the Clouds, we see not the reason of many things, but then his Justice and Righteousness shall be gloriously apparent to all the World,* Rev. 2. 5. *Here they live longest, many times, that deserve not to live at all,* Job 21. 7. *The* Israelites *are oppressed whilst the* Egyptians *live at ease. Good* David *is*

in

in want, and persecuted, whilst wicked Nabal *abounds.* Sion *is oft Captive to* Babylon: *But there is another Day, and another reckoning, when all shall be set to Rights: When the* Righteous shall rejoyce, and the wicked shall mourn, *Esay* 65. 13, 14. *God will not alwayes suffer his* Jewels *to be trampled in the Dirt under the feet of Pride and Malice; but he will vindicate the injuries that are now done unto them,* Luke 18. 7. *Now men curse, but Christ will then receive such, with a* Come ye Blessed of my Father, &c. *Matth.* 25. 34.

O how singularly foolish than are you, that seek to root out, and to rid the Saints out of the World, as the Heathen Emperors did. These resemble the Stag in the Emblem, *that fed upon the Leaves, which hid him from the Hunter. And* Sampson-*like, by pulling down the Pillars, they bring the House upon their own Heads.*

But I will enlarge no further. If

through

To the Christian Reader.

(through God's Blessing) this little Book may prove useful to the deterring of wicked and malevolent spirits from all kinds of Persecution, though but in Words and Gestures, Esay 57. 3, 4. *and to the encouraging of the Godly Persecuted, to bear their sufferings meekly, referring their cause wholly unto God, who saith*, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord, *Rom.* 12. 19. *I have mine end,*

Who am

From my Study in *Hammersmith*, *April* 14. 1674.

Thy Friend and Servant to thy Faith

Sam. Clarke.

God's

God's Judgments

UPON

PERSECUTORS

Recorded in the

Books of the Old Teſtament.

THe firſt Perſecutor and Murtherer was the Devil, as our Saviour Chriſt teſtifies, *John* 8. 44. *He was a Murtherer from the Beginning*: He murther'd the Souls (the moſt Noble and Divine part) of our Firſt Parents, and in them of all their Poſterity, had not God (of his infinite goodneſs and mercy) made a Balſom of the Blood of *Chriſt*, for the healing of that deadly wound.

wound. See the Devil's punishment for it, *Gen.* 3. 15.

2. The two first men that were born into the World were *Cain* and *Abel*; and long they had not lived together before *Cain*, when they were in *the Field together, rose up against his Brother* Abel, *and slew him*, Gen. 4. 8. *And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his Brothers Righteous*, 1 John 3. 12. But the righteous God would not suffer him to go away with impunity. For saith God to him, Gen. 4. 12. *When thou tillest the Ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength. A Fugitive and a Vagabond shalt thou be in the Earth*; In which condition he suffered many Thousand Deaths (by reason of his Horrors and terrors of Conscience) before he came to die, as is implied, verse 14. *From thy Face shall I be hid, and I shall be a Fugitive and a Vagabond in the Earth, and it shall come to pass that every one that findeth me shall slay me.*

3. Though the Scripture mentions particularly no other Persecution before the Flood, yet *Gen.* 6. 11. It's said, *The Earth was corrupt before God, and the Earth was filled with Violence*: which Violence certainly was chiefly practised by the wicked

Cainites

Cainites againſt the Church of God: For which Sin (among others) God brought that General Deluge which deſtroyed them all, *Gen. 6. 13.* God ſaid unto *Noah: The end of all Fleſh is come before me: For the Earth is fil'ed with violence through them: And behold I will deſtroy them with the Earth.*

4. When the world was reduced to a very ſmall number, yet then had Satan a wicked *Ham* to perſecute and mock his godly aged Father; for which he was curſed, and his Poſterity doomed to bondage and ſervitude, Gen. 19. 25, 26, 27. *Curſed be* Canaan: *A Servant of Servants ſhall he be to his Brethren, &c.*

5. In holy *Abraham*'s Family there was a Perſecuting *Iſhmael*, as the Apoſtle *Paul* teſtifies, Gal. 4. 29. *He that was born after the fleſh perſecuted him that was born after the Spirit:* But though he was *Abraham*'s Son, God would not ſuffer this Sin to go unpuniſhed: For, verſe 30.——*What ſaith the Scripture? Caſt out the Bond-woman and her Son: For the Son of the Bond-woman ſhall not be Heir with the Son of the Free-woman.* And ſure it was no ſmall puniſhment to be caſt out of the Church of God, and not to be ſuffered to partake of the

Bleſſings

Bleſſings promiſed thereunto.

6. When the Church of God, the Children of *Iſrael* were in *Egypt*, they were Perſecuted by *Pharaoh* King of *Egypt*, and his People, who ſet over them *Taskmaſters to afflict them with their burdens*, Exod. 1. 11. thinking thereby to eat them up and wear them out: And when that prevailed not, *they made them ſerve with rigor, and they made their Lives bitter with hard Bondage in Mortar, and in Brick, and in all manner of Service in the Field: all the Service wherein they made them ſerve, was with rigor*, verſe 13. 14. And when yet they ſtill multiplied, the King commanded the Midwives, *Siphra* and *Puah*, *when they did the Office of a Midwife to the* Hebrew *women, and ſaw them upon the Stools, if they were delivered of a Son, they ſhould preſently kill him*, verſe 15. 16. And when theſe Midwives neglected his commands, he charged all his People that *every Son that was born to the* Iſraelites, *ſhould be caſt into the River* Nilus, verſe 22.

7. And when God ſent *Moſes* into *Egypt* to deliver his People out of the Houſe of Bondage, *Pharaoh* raged more againſt them: He cauſed *Straw to be taken from them, and yet the number of Bricks to be continued*;

tinued; and when that task was not done, *the Officers of the Children of* Iſrael *were cruelly beaten*, Exod. 5. 14. But the Juſtice of God ſlept not all this while: They had ſhed the Blood of the People of God, and God turned all their Waters into Blood: They had killed all the Males of the *Iſraelites*, and God's deſtroying Angel killed all their firſt-born: They had drowned Multitudes in the River, and *Pharaoh* and his Army were all drowned in the *Red Sea*.

Pœna venit gravior quo magè ſera venit.

Juſtice though ſlowly, yet doth ſurely tread,
And ſtrikes with Iron though ſhe walks with Lead.

8. *Saul* the firſt King of *Iſrael* was a cruel Perſecutor of *David*, and the Prieſts of the Lord; of whom (upon a falſe ſuggeſtion) *he ſlew fourſcore and five Perſons that did wear a linnen Ephod*; and not ſatisfied with their Blood, he went to *Nob*, the City of the Prieſts, and *ſmote it with the Edg of the Sword, both Men and Women, Children and Sucklings, and Oxen, and Aſſes, and Sheep*, 1 Sam. 22. 18, 19. But ſee the

end: His Country being invaded by the *Philiſtins*, he goes to the *Witch of Endor*, where he complained to the Devil in *Samuel's* Mantle, that *God had forſaken him when he was ſore diſtreſſed by the* Philiſtins, *and anſwered him no more, neither by Prophets, nor by Dreams*, 1 Sam. 28. 15. And a few dayes after, when he had lived to ſee his Army routed, three of his Sons ſlain, and himſelf ſorely wounded, in deſpair he fell upon his own Sword, and died, 1 *Sam.* 31. 1, 2, 3, 4.

9. *Aſa* (though a good King) being reproved by the Prophet *Hanani*, for relying upon the King of *Syria*, and not upon the Lord his God, *was wrath with him, and put him in Priſon, and oppreſſed ſome of the People at the ſame time*, 2 Chron. 16. 7, 10. But God would not ſuffer this Sin to go unpuniſhed: For, verſe 12. *He was diſeaſed in his Feet* (probably of the Gout,) *and his diſeaſe was exceeding great*, which in the end took away his Life.

10. King *Ahab* perſecuted the Prophet *Micaiah*, who dealt plainly and faithfully with him, and ſent him to *Amon* the Governour of the City, and to *Joaſh* the King's Son, ſaying, *Put this fellow in the Priſon, and feed him with Bread of affliction, and*

and with water of affliction, until I return in Peace, 2 Chron. 18. 26. But notwithſtanding all his Policy in diſguiſing himſelf, he was ſlain in that Battle, *verſe* 33. 34.

11. *Jeſabel* his Wife *ſlew the Prophets of the Lord*, 1 Kings 18. 13. and perſecuted *Elijah*: But *Jehu* being made King when he was come to *Jezreel*, *Jezabel painted her Face, and tired her Head*, and looking out to *Jehu* ſaid, *Had* Zimri *peace that ſlew his Maſter? Jehu* ſeeing her, commanded her to be thrown down out of the Window, which was accordingly done by ſome of her own Servants; By the fall ſhe was ſlain, and trampled under Horſes feet, and her Body was torn, and devoured by Dogs, 2 *Kings* 9. 30, 33, 35.

12. *Manaſſe* perſecuted the Ancient and Noble Prophet *Iſaiah*, (who probably was of the Royal Blood) for his free reproofs for all his wickedneſs, who thereupon cauſed him to be ſawn in ſunder with a wooden Saw (as *Joſephus* ſaith:) But not long after the Lord brought upon him the Captains of the Hoſt of the King of *Aſſyria*, *who took* Manaſſe *among the Thorns, and bound him in Fetters, and carried him to* Babylon, *where he was caſt into a*

Dungeon, 2 Chron. 33. 11.

13. The wicked *Jews* grievously perſecuted the Prophet *Jeremiah*: Firſt, they *ſmote him with the Tongue*, Jerem. 18. 18. *Come*, ſay they, *Let us deviſe deviſes againſt* Jeremiah —— *Come and let us ſmite him with the Tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his Words.* Afterwards *Paſhur* the Prieſt, ſmote him, and put him in the Stocks; whereupon *Jeremiah* denounced this Judgment againſt him: *The Lord hath not called thy Name* Paſhur, *but* Magormiſſabib. *For thus ſaith the Lord, I will make thee a terror to thy ſelf, and to all thy Friends, and they ſhall fall by the Sword of their Enemies, and their Eyes ſhall behold it.* —— *And thou* Paſhur *and all that are in thine Houſe ſhall go into Captivity, and thou ſhalt come to* Babylon, *and their thou ſhalt die*, Jerem. 20. 2, 3, 4, 6. Which grievous threatnings were without all queſtion performed.

14. After this the Prieſts, and the Prophets, and all the People took *Jeremiah*, and ſaid, *Thou ſhalt ſurely die*, Jer. 26. 8. To whom *Jeremiah* ſaid, *As for me, Behold, I am in your Hand: Do with me as ſeemeth good unto you: But know ye for certain, that if you put me to death, ye ſhall ſurely bring innocent Blood upon your ſelf, and upon this City, and upon*

the

the Inhabitants thereof, &c. verſe 14, 15.

15. When *Jeruſalem* was beſieged by *Nebuchadnezzar*'s Army, King *Zedekiah* cauſed *Jeremiah* to be caſt into Priſon for foretelling the deſtruction of *Jeruſalem*, & the Captivity of *Zedekiah*, Jer. 32. 2, 3. &c. But God ſuffered him not to go unpuniſhed. For not long after, the City (according to *Jeremiah*'s Prophecy) was taken, & *Zedekiah* was, in his flight, overtaken, and carried to the King of *Babylon*, who ſlew his Sons before his eyes, & that that dreadful ſight might be the laſt thing that he ſhould ever ſee he immediatly put out his eyes, *and bound him with Chains, and carried him to* Babylon, *Jer.* 39. 5, 6, 7. And *Zedekiah*'s Princes, & Nobles, who had ſmitten *Jeremiah*, and put him into Priſon, *Jer.* 37. 15. & did afterwards caſt him into a Dungeon, where he did ſtick in the mire, *Jer.* 38. 6. When the City was taken, they alſo being over-taken, were carried to the King of *Babylon*, who ſlew them all, *Jerem.* 38. 6.

16. Afterwards when the People were carried into Captivity, *Jeremiah* being (according to his own deſire) left in the Land of *Juda*, he with the reſt of the People, was carried perforce by *Johanan*, and ſome other wicked Captains into *Egypt*, unto whom he foretold that they ſhould their

periſh by the Sword, and by the Famine, and by the Peſtilence, for which plain and faithful dealing, they ſtoned him to Death (as *Joſephus* reports:) But it was not long before *Nebuchadnezzar* came, and overcame the *Egyptians*, and plundered the Country, at which time thoſe Predictions of *Jeremy* were fulfilled upon his Perſecuting Enemies, *Jerem.* 43. 6, 7. and 44. 11, 12. *&c.*

17. And that the deſtruction of *Jeruſalem*, and the *Babyloniſh* Captivity (which continued ſeventy Years) was in a ſpecial manner inflicted upon them for their crying ſin of perſecuting the Miniſters and People of God, appears plainly, 2 *Chron.* 16. 17. Where it is ſaid: *They mocked the Meſſengers of God, and deſpiſed his words, and miſuſed his Prophets, until the wrath of the Lord aroſe againſt his People, till there was no remedy. Therefore he brought upon them the King of the* Chaldees, *who ſlew their young men with the Sword in the Houſe of their Sanctuary, and had no compaſſion upon Young Man, or Maiden, Old Man, or him that ſtooped for Age, &c.*

18. During the Captivity, *Haman* the *Agagite* (a deadly Enemy to the Church and People of God) had got a Decree from King *Ahaſuerus*, upon a certain Day to

deſtroy,

deſtroy, to kill, and to cauſe to periſh all Jews *both Young and Old, little Children and Women, and to take the ſpoil of them for a prey,* Eſther 3. 13. But God wonderfully defeated this deſign, preſerved his People, and turned the Miſchief intended againſt them, upon their Enemies Pates. For this wicked *Haman* was himſelf hanged upon the Gallows, fifty Cubits high, which he had prepared for *Mordecay*, *Eſther* 7. 9. His ten Sons alſo were ſlain, *Eſther* 9. 10. And all others that roſe up againſt them.

19. Sometime after the return of the *Jews* from the *Babyloniſh* Captivity, *Antiochus Epiphanes*, or the *Vile* rather, was a cruel and mercileſs Perſecutor of the Godly among them: But being in ſtraits for want of mony, he went into *Perſia* to gather up ſome: And being there, he heard that in a wealthy City, called *Elymais*, there was a very Rich Temple dedicated to *Diana:* Thither therefore he went, and beſieged it; But the Inhabitants, ſallying out, drave him away with great ſhame and loſs: And when he came back to *Babylon* he heard of the overthrow of his Captains and Armies in *Judæa:* Which News (together with his late defeat) ſo wrought upon him, that he fell ſick, and finding no

hope of recovery, he called his moſt familiar Friends unto him, and told them that his Diſeaſe was violent and deſperate, and that he was juſtly Plagued by God, with this grievous Sickneſs, for that he had tormented the People of the *Jews*, deſtroyed their Temple and committed horrible Sacrilege, and for contemning the Majeſty of of God: But now he Vowed, that if it would pleaſe the Lord to receive him, he would become a *Jew*, and do many great things for the People of God: As alſo that he would go through all the known World to declare the power of God: Notwithſtanding which (the Lord knowing his Hypocriſie) continued to plague him after a very grievous and terrible manner. For he had a remedileſs and inceſſant pain in his Bowels, and intollerable torments in all his inward parts. His Body bred abundance of Worms, which continually crawled out of the ſame: Yea, he ſo rotted above ground, that whole flakes of fleſh fell from his Body, which was accompanied with ſuch an intollerable ſtink that none were able to come near him, neither could he himſelf endure the ſame, which forced him to ſay, *It is meet to ſubmit to God, and for man which is mortal, not to ſet himſelf in competition*

petition with God. Thus this vile Perſon, who formerly in a proud and inſolent manner had Proteſted that he would make *Jeruſalem* a common burying place, and the Streets thereof to run with the blood of God's People, by God's juſt Judgment ended his life in extream miſery in a Strange Land, upon the Mountains of *Parata*, near *Babylon.*

20. Probably under him it was that the Saints endured moſt of thoſe Perſecutions which are mentioned by the Apoſtle in that *little Book of Martyrs*, Heb. 11. 36, 37, 38. *Others had trial of cruel mockings, and ſcourgings; yea, moreover of Bonds, and impriſonment. They were ſtoned: they were ſawn aſunder; were tempted; were ſlain with the Sword: They wandred about in Sheepskins, and Goatskins, being deſtitute, afflicted, tormented: Of whom the World was not worthy: They wandred in Deſarts, and Mountains, and in Dens, and Caves of the Earth.*

Of God's Judgments upon Perſecutors under the New Teſtament.

Herod, ſurnamed *the Great*, hearing by the *Wiſe men* that came out of the

the *East*, that there was one, who was born King of the *Jews*, and being informed by the Chief Priests and the Scribes that the place of his Birth should be *Bethlem* of *Judah*, he sent forth his Soldiers, and (to make sure work) *he slew all the Children that were in* Bethlem, *and in all the Coasts thereof, from two years old and under*, hoping thereby to have destroyed *Christ*. But presently after, the Lord gave him over to a Spirit of Phrensie, that he slew *Maryamne*, his Beloved Wife, and his Children (which made *Augustus Cæsar* say, *That it was better to be* Herod's *Dog than his Son*) and his neareſt Kinsfolk, and familiar Friends. And shortly after, God's terrible Judgment fell upon him by a grievous Disease, which was a slack and slow Fire in his inward parts: He had also a greedy and Doglike appetite after Food, which yet was insatiable: He had also a rotting in his Bowels, and a grievous Flux in his Fundament: A moist and running humor in his Feet, and the like Malady vexed him about his Bladder: His Privy Members putrified, engendring abundance of Worms, which continually crawled and swarmed out of the same. He had a short and a stinking Breath, with a great pain in breathing: And

through

through all the parts of his Body ſuch a violent Cramp, as no humane ſtrength was able to endure. Yet longing after Life, he ſent for *Phyſicians* from all parts, by whoſe advice he went to the hot *Baths* at *Calliroe*: But finding no eaſe by the uſe thereof, and his torments ſtill encreaſing, he endeavoured to lay violent Hands upon himſelf, had he not been prevented by his Friends about him; and ſo at laſt (having had ſome foretaſtes of the torments of Hell) in extream anguiſh he ended his wretched Life.

22. *Herod* the *Leſs*, ſurnamed *Antipas*, having married the Daughter of *Aretas*, King of *Arabia*, after a while, put her away, and took *Herodias*, who had forſaken her Husband *Philip*, *Herod*'s Brother: For which Inceſtuous, and Adulterous Marriage, *John the Baptiſt* plainly reproved him, ſaying, *It is not lawful for thee to have her*, Matth. 14. 4. Hereupon, at the inſtigation of *Herodias*, he firſt caſt *John* into Priſon, and afterwards cut off his Head. But the Lord ſuffered not this wicked Murther to go long unpuniſhed: For *Aretas*, raiſing an Army againſt *Herod*, for his ignominious dealing with his Daughter, in a pitch'd Battle, wholly overthrew him, and cut off his whole Hoſt. And not long after *Herod* falling

falling into disgrace with *Augustus*, the *Roman* Emperor, he, together with his Incestuous *Herodias*, were banished to *Vienne* in *France*, where they ended their wretched lives with much shame and misery.

23. After this there arose a third *Herod*, surnamed *Agrippa*, who (not taking warning by his Predecessors calamities) fell to Persecuting the Church of *Christ*, and conventing *James* the Brother of *John*, before him, he condemned him to be beheaded: And seeing the Death of *James* pleased the *Jews*, he took *Peter* also, and delivered him to *four Quaternians of Soldiers to keep him in Prison, intending after the* Passover *to put him to Death*, Acts 12. 1. &c. But neither did this Bloody Persecuting *Herod* escape any better than his Predecessors had done: For upon a great Festival day, he being arraied in glittering and Royal Apparel, *Sat upon his Throne, and made an Oration to the People, which being ended*, the People *gave a shout, saying, It is the Voice of a God, and not of a Man: Whereupon the Angel of God's Immutability smote him, and he was eaten of Worms, and gave up the Ghost*, in the fifty fourth year of his Age, and the Seventh of his Reign under *Claudius Cæsar*.

24. Now

24. Now the Sins of the *Jews* being ripe, especially that heynous Sin of Persecuting the Prophets, and Messengers of God; cried aloud for Judgment (according as *Christ* had foretold them) *Matth.* 23. 34, 35, 36. &c. *Behold* (saith he) *I send unto you Prophets, and Wise men, and Scribes, and some of them you shall kill and crucifie, and some of them ye shall scourge in your Synagogues, and persecute them from City to City, that upon you may come all the righteous Blood shed upon the Earth from the Blood of the Righteous* Abel, *unto the Blood of* Zacharias, *Son of* Barachias, *whom ye slew between the Temple and the Altar: Verily I say unto you all these things shall come upon this Generation.* And that you may know more particularly what those Judgments were, our Saviour *Christ* sets them down, Matth. 23, 38. *Your House is left unto you desolate:* And more plainly, Chap. 24. 21, 22. *Then shall be great Tribulation, such as was not from the beginning of the World to this time: No, nor ever shall be: And except those Dayes should be shortened, their should no Flesh* (to wit, of the *Jews*) *be saved: But for the Elects sake those Dayes shall be shortened.*

25. These Predictions of our Saviour were fulfilled by the *Roman* Armies under *Vespasian*,

Vespasian, and *Titus* his Son: For besides the Afflictions which befel them in divers other Countries, being tossed up and down by the *Roman* Deputies, there were slain in *Cæsarea* twenty thousand in one day: At *Alexandria* fifty Thousand another Day: At *Zabulon* and *Joppa* eight Thousand and four Hundred: At *Damascus* ten Thousand had their Throats cut. In the Siege of *Jerusalem*, they were so miserably pinched with Famine, that Oxen's Dung was accounted good meat: Others fed upon old Leather, and some Women boiled their own Children, and did eat them. Many hoping to save their Lives by flying to the *Romans*, had their Bowels ript up, to search for Gold and Jewels in their Stomacks and Guts: Two Thousand of them thus perished in one Night. Ninty seven Thousand of them were taken Prisoners (besides what fell under the Sword) when *Jerusalem* was taken by Storm, and eleven Hundred Thousand perished by the Sword, Famine, and Pestilence, during the Siege, and at the taking of the City. Some of the Prisoners were carried to *Rome* to grace their Triumph: Others were slain in divers Places at the Conquerors Will: Some were torn in pieces and devoured by wild Beasts:

Beaſts: Others were compelled to march in Troops againſt their Fellows, and to kill one another to make the Spectators ſport. The Reliques of this wretched People were diſperſed into all Nations under Heaven, having no Magiſtrates of their own to protect them; but were, and ſtill are altogether at the will and diſcretion of the Lords of thoſe Countries where they ſojourn: So that no Nation under Heaven is ſo vile and contemtible as the *Jews*.

26. Yet here was not an end of their miſery: For in the Reign of the Emperor *Trojan*, theſe wretched People rebelled againſt the *Romans* in *Egypt* and *Cyprus*, and falling upon the Inhabitants, uſed unheard-of cruelties towards them; whereupon *Trajan* ſent againſt them *Martius Turbo*, who ſlew many Thouſands of them. And fearing leſt the *Jews* in *Meſopotamia* ſhould break forth into the like Outrages, he commanded *Lucius Quintus* to deſtroy them utterly, who ſo diligently executed his Will, that the Emperor, to recompence his ſervice, made him Preſident of *Judæa*. *Dion.*

27. After him *Adrian* the Emperour ſent *Severus* his General againſt theſe wretched *Jews*, who (by reaſon of their multitude) would

would not trie it out in a pitched Battle, but proceeding more warily, and taking his opportunities, he by degrees, took fifty of their Strong Caſtles, razed nine Hundred and fourſcore of their beſt Towns, and ſlew five Hundred and eighty Thouſand of them: Beſides multitudes that periſhed by Famine, Diſeaſes and Fire, ſo that almoſt all *Judea* was made deſolate: He alſo by an Edict prohibited the *Jews* from coming near to *Jeruſalem*, or from any high place to look towards the ſame. *Dion.*

28. *Salmaticenſis* teſtifieth that this *Adrian* deſtroyed twice as many *Jews* as *Moſes* brought out of *Egypt*. That he razed *Jeruſalem*, and not far from it, built another City, which after his own Name he called *Ælia*, and over the Gates of it he placed Statues of Swine, which were faithful Porters to prohibit the Superſtitious *Jews* from entrance.

29. St. *Hierom* tells us, that in his time, on that Day wherein *Jeruſalem* was taken by the *Romans*, you might ſee decrepit women, and old ragged Women, and old ragged men, and many wretched People (but pitied of none) with blubbered cheeks, black Arms, diſhivelled Hair, howling, and lamenting for the deſolations of their Sanctuary,

ctuary, in their Bodies and Habits, bearing and wearing the sad Characters of Divine Vengeance, of whom also the Soldiers exacted their Fees for granting them liberty of farther weeping: So that they who formerly sold the Blood of Christ and his Members, were then fain to buy their own Tears.

Gods Judgments on Persecutors during the ten Primitive Persecutions under the Heathen Emperors.

30. *Nero* (that monster of men) that raised the first bloody Persecution against the Christians, caused them to be clad in the skins of wild Beasts, and torn in pieces with Dogs: Others he Crucified: Of some he made Bone-fires to light him in his Night-sports. In brief, such horrible cruelties he used against them, as made them to be pitied of their very Enemies. But God at last found out this wretched Persecutor. For being adjudged by the *Roman* Senate to be an Enemy to mankind, he was condemned to be whip'd to Death; To avoid which shameful end, he cut his own throat.

31. *Domitian* the Author of the second

Perſecution againſt the Chriſtians, grew to that prodigious height of Pride, that he would be adored as a God: But God raiſed up his own houſhold Servants againſt him, who (by the conſent of his Wife) ſlew him with Daggers in his privy Chamber. His Body was buried without honour: His memory accurſed to all Poſterities, and his Arms, and Enſigns were thrown down and defaced.

32. *Trajan*, though a prudent Prince, and good civil Magiſtrate, yet by the inſtigation of Satan and his Inſtruments, raiſed the third Perſecution againſt the Church: For which the vengeance of God, and his heavy hand fell upon him. For firſt he fell into a grievous Palſie: then loſt the uſe of his Senſes: and laſtly fell into a Dropſie, and dyed in great anguiſh and miſery.

33. *Adrian*, who raiſed the fourth Perſecution, cauſing ten thouſand Chriſtians to be crucified in *Armenia*, and afterwards ſtirred up a hot and cruel Perſecution againſt them in other places, was ſtricken by God with an iſſue of blood from his Lungs which exceedingly diſquieted and weakened him: Then he fell into a Conſumption of the Lungs, which he ſpat out continually

ally: And in the mean time he was afflicted with an inſatiable Dropſie, whereupon, finding himſelf ſo variouſly tormented, he would have taken Poiſon; or cut his throat with a Knife: But his Friends preventing him, he was forced to die a lingering and painful Death.

34. *Marcus Antonius Verus*, who continued the fourth Perſecution, exerciſing exceeding great cruelties againſt the Chriſtians in all parts of his Empire, eſpecially at *Lions*, and *Viene* in *Dalphine*: For which cauſe, the Lord ſtruck him with a grievous *Apoplexy*, of which, after he had lain ſpeechleſs three days, he dyed.

35. *Comodus* the Emperor, who continued alſo this fourth Perſecution againſt the Chriſtians, was given over to ſuch abominable wickedneſs, that he kept three hundred Concubines, and as many boys for unnatural and delectable uſes: and for his cruelty was poiſoned by his Friend *Marcia*, which cauſed him to fall into extreme and deadly vomiting, in which he was ſlain by *Narciſſus*, one of his Chamberlains.

36. *Severus*, the Author of the fifth Perſecution, never proſpered after he began the ſame, but fell into diverſe calamities: And at length was ſtricken by God with

ſuch an extreme pain through all the parts of his Body, that being in miſery therewith, he would fain have poiſoned himſelf; but being prevented by his Friends, he dyed a languiſhing and painful death.

37. Under him, *Claudius Herminianus*, Governour of *Cappadocia* (out of hatred to his wife who was a Chriſtian) extremely perſecuted, and afflicted many of Gods children: he was ſtricken by God with a Peſtilential Carbuncle, and had Vermine bred in his bowels which devoured him alive, after a moſt horrible manner, which extorted a confeſſion from him, that thoſe Plagues fell juſtly upon him for his perſecuting the Chriſtians.

38. *Maximianus* the Empreor, who raiſed the ſixth Perſecution againſt the people of God, eſpecially againſt the Paſtors of the Church, was himſelf together with his Son ſlain by his own Soldiers.

39. *Decius* who raiſed the ſeventh Perſecution, labouring by all means utterly to deſtroy the Church of *Chriſt*, exerciſing all the cruelty and torments that the wit of man could invent againſt them. For this cauſe God raiſed up the *Scythians* againſt him, who in a bloody battel, routed and overthrew his Army, and himſelf,

and

and Son were cruelly ſlain: or as others ſay, to avoid falling into his Enemies hands, he leap'd his horſe into a Whirlpit, after which his body was never found.

40. Preſently after the death of this Tyrant, a grievous Plague and Peſtilence fell upon the bloody perſecuting Gentiles in every of the *Roman* Provinces, which laſting ten years together, made ſuch havock among them, as is horrible to hear, and almoſt incredible to believe. And it was obſerved, that where the Emperors Edicts had been put in Execution with moſt ſeverity, there it raged moſt, inſomuch that many places became utterly deſolate.

41. *Gallus* the Emperor who continued the ſeventh Perſecution, was himſelf with his Son ſlain by one of his own Captains.

42. *Valerian* the Emperor, in the beginning of his Reign was very mild towards the Chriſtians: But afterwards (being ſtirred up by the Devil and his Inſtruments) proved a terrible Perſecutor of them in all his Dominions: But not long after, he was overthrown by the *Perſians* in a bloody Battel; wherein himſelf was taken Priſoner, being ſeventy years old, and made ſo vile a ſlave, that *Sapores* the King of *Perſia*, uſed his back as a Block whereby

to mount on Horſe-back, and afterward he cauſed him to be flayed alive, and powdered with Salt, ſo that he dyed in cruel torments. *Euſebius.*

43. *Claudius* a Preſident, and one of his Miniſters of cruelty, was poſſeſſed by the Devil, and ſo grievouſly tormented, that biting off his tongue in ſmall bits, he dyed miſerably. This was the eighth Perſecution.

44. *Aurelian* who raiſed the ninth Perſecution, being about to ſend out an Edict for renewing the Perſecution againſt the Chriſtians, as he was about to ſign it, a Thunderbolt fell at his Feet, which ſo terrified him, that for the preſent he forbore: But afterward, renewing it again, God ſtirred up his Servants to cut his throat. *Niceph. Eutropius.*

45. *Dioclesian* the Author of the tenth Perſecution, Firſt uſed all Politick ways to cauſe all the Chriſtians in his Armies to renounce their Faith. Then by Proclamation he commanded all their Churches to be beaten down; their Bibles to be burnt, or torn in pieces: That all Chriſtians in any Office ſhould be ejected: That Chriſtian Bondmen who would forſake their Profeſſion ſhould be made free: But when, notwith-

withſtanding this, he ſaw that the number of Chriſtians ſtill increaſed, being ſatiated with blood, he reſigned, and gave over the Empire: But ſhortly after God ſtruck him with diverſe and ſtrange diſeaſes: His houſe was burnt down by Lightning from Heaven: And himſelf was ſo affrighted with a dreadful Thunder that he ran mad, and killed himſelf. *Ruffinus.*

46. *Maximinian* alſo, his Fellow-Emperor raged exceeding cruelly, and outragiouſly againſt the Chriſtians. For when twenty thouſand of them, upon a Solemn Feſtival Day, were aſſembled in a Temple at *Nicomedia*, to ſerve God, he cauſed it to be environed with ſome Bands of Soldiers, to be ſet on fire, and to be burnt with all that was in it. And a City of Chriſtians in *Phrygia*, taking it after a long Siege, he cauſed it to be burnt, and razed to the ground, with all that were in it. But ſhortly after God ſtruck him with a grievous and incurable Diſeaſe, wherein Vermin bred abundantly in his Body, which was accompanied with ſuch an horrible ſtink, that, not being able to endure it, he hanged himſelf.

47. *Maximinus* that next ſucceeded in the *Eaſtern* Empire, was a cruel and implacable

placable Perſecutor of the Saints. For which God ſtruck him with an uncoth and loathſome Diſeaſe. In his Privy Members there grew a ſudden putrefaction, and at the bottom of the ſame there aroſe a botchy corrupt Bile, with a *Fiſtula* conſuming and eating up his Entrails, out of which came ſwarming and innumerable company of Lice, which was attended with ſuch a peſtiferous ſtink as none were able to abide it. And being a corpulent man, all his fat ſo putrified, and ſtank ſo horribly, that ſome of his *Phyſicians*, not being able to endure it, he commanded to be ſlain: and others of them were cruelly put to death, becauſe they could not cure him. But at laſt being told that it was Gods juſt revenging hand upon him for perſecuting his people, he ſeemed to relent, and commanded the Perſecution to ceaſe: and God was pleaſed in ſome meaſure to eaſe him of his grievous torments. But about ſix months after, he ſent forth a new Proclamation for the utter rooting out of the very name of Chriſtians, whereupon his diſeaſe returned again, and aſſaulted him in greater extremity than before; ſo that his body being all rotten and full of corruption and worms, he dyed an accurſed and miſerable Death. *Chryſoſtom* ſaith

ſaith, that the Apples of his eyes fell out before he dyed.

48. *Galerius* a chief Inſtrument of the Perſecution under *Diocleſian* fell into a grievous Diſeaſe: in the nether part of his belly there aroſe a ſpreading ſore which conſumed his Privy Members, from whence there crawled abundance of worms, bred of the putrefaction, which neither *Chyrurgeons*, nor *Phyſicians* could cure. This made him to acknowledge that it was a juſt hand of God upon him for his cruelty to the Chriſtians, and ſo he dyed miſerable; or as others write, he ſlew himſelf. *Languets Chron.*

49. *Licinius* the *Eaſtern* Emperor, a bloody and mercileſs Enemy to the Chriſtians, was in two great Battels overthrown by *Conſtantine* the Great, and ſlain by his Soldiers.

50. *Antiochus*, who paſſed ſentence upon *Agapetus*, a godly young man, that was but fifteen years old, fell down ſuddenly as he ſate upon the Seat of Judicature, crying out, that all his bowels burned within him, and ſo he dyed in great torment.

61. *Mamuca*, a *Saracen*, being a cruel Perſecutor of the people of God, like unto *Pharoah*, met alſo with the like ſtroke of Gods

Gods vengeance. For as he was returning by Sea, with his Army in a hundred Ships, from the ſlaughter of the Chriſtians, God ſent ſuch a Storm upon them, that few or none of them eſcaped drowning. *Paulus Diaconus. Lib. 3. c. 12.*

Julian, ſurnamed *The Apoſtate*, was firſt a Chriſtian, yet afterward became a Heathen, and proved one of the moſt dangerous and deadly Perſecutors that ever the Chriſtian Church had. Firſt, he began to undermine the Chriſtian Religion by Policy, and afterwards proceeded to downright blows, letting looſe the Gentiles, and his Governours upon the Chriſtians, wherein neither *Arian*, nor *Orthodox* is ſpared from Impriſonment, Baniſhment, Tortures, and what not? And when complaints were made hereof to the Emperour, he anſwered, *That their Religion taught them to bear all patiently.* He would not endure that Chriſtians children ſhould be trained up in humane Learning, becauſe he ſaw the Chriſtians did beat the Gentiles with their own weapons, and made *Philoſophy* an Inſtrument to ſerve Divinity: He took away the Miniſters maintenance, thereby deſtroying not ſo much *Presbiters*, as the *Presbytery.* But whileſt he was thus buſie

buſie againſt the Church: he was called to an expedition againſt the *Perſians*: whereupon he made a ſolemn Proteſtation, that when he returned from this war, he would utterly root out Chriſtianity, and ſo proceeding in his journey, he beat the Enemy to a confuſed retreat; whereupon, that he might purſue them with the more ſpeed, he threw off his Armor, but as he was poſting on, he was met by a Dart, or arrow that pierced through his arm, and entred into his ſide, and whileſt he endeavoured with the other hand to draw it out, he received another wound, and thereupon fell from his horſe, and receiving his blood, guſhing from his wound into his hands, he threw it up into the Air, ſaying, *viciſti Galilæe, viciſti*: O thou *Galilæan* (ſo he called Chriſt in ſcorn) thou haſt overcome me: and *Nazianzen* ſaith, that his body was carried away in a tempeſt, without Lamentation, and without Burial.

Gods Judgments upon perſecuting Hereticks.

53. *Arius* the firſt great diſturber of the peace of the Chriſtian Church, was ſent for by *Conſtantine the Great*, who asked him what the

the matter was that where-ever he went, ſtill tumults and ſlaughters followed him. And whether he did really agree with the *Nicene Faith? Arius* did profeſſedly avow that he did full agree thereto. The Emperor commanded him to ſet the ſame down in writing under his hand, which he did in the Emperors preſence. Then the Emperor required his Oath to manifeſt that he was reall in the ſame: and he readily made Oath, that what he had written, was according to the truth, and that it was his reall Judgment and Opinion. The Emperor now having his Subſcription and Oath, was ſatisfied, and would have him firſt to communicate with the *Orthodox* Church at *Conſtantinople*, that he might be the better qualified for Communion with the Church at *Alexandria*, where *Athanaſius* had mightily oppoſed him: and accordingly he wrote to *Alexander* the Biſhop of *Conſtantinople* to receive *Arius* into Communion.

54. *Alexander*, laying aſide all further Diſputes (by which hitherto he had mightily oppoſed the *Arian* Party) betook himſelf wholly to Prayer, wherein he continued fervently for diverſe days and nights: but more eſpecially that next day before the

the *Lords Day*, wherein *Arius* was to be admitted to the Sacrament: the Sum of which Prayer was this,

It muſt needs be thus, O Lord, that Arius *muſt communicate with this People to morrow. Let thy Servant, O Lord, now depart in peace, and never ſee that day: and deſtroy not thou the Righteous with the Wicked: But if thou wilt ſpare thy Church, (as thou wilt ſpare it) remember the words of* Euſebius (an *Arian* Biſhop) *and give not over thine inheritance to deſtruction and contempt, and take* Arius *out of the way, leſt he being admitted into Communion, Hereſie ſhould ſeem alſo to be received into Communion with the Truth, and wickedneſs be accounted Godlineſs.*

This *Euſebius*, Biſhop of *Nicomedia* at *Conſtantinople* had now the whole conduct of the matter concerning *Arius*, and ſent word to *Alexander* that unleſs he would receive *Arius* into Communion, he would baniſh him from *Conſtantinople*, and put another into his place that ſhould do the Work. But *Euſebius* for all his threats, miſſed his expectation. For the *Lords Day* being come, *Arius* with the Emperors Authority, marched forth in State out of the Emperors Hall, with *Euſebius* and other Biſhops in his train: and paſſing along the Streets

Streets in Pomp (a ſtrange manner of addreſs to the Sacrament) came to the common Market Place, where a ſudden fear fell upon him, and therewithal, he was ſurpriſed with a Flux, which enforced him to retire into a Houſe appointed for ſuch a purpoſe, and there ſuddenly his Speech failed him: his Excrements and Blood ran out, his Belly brake, his Guts fell out, and his Spleen and Liver followed. The people ſtaying long in expectation of him, and he not coming, they entred the houſe, and found the ſad Spectacle of him lying dead in that manner.

Conſtantius, one of the ſons of *Conſtantine* was himſelf an *Arian*, and a great favourer of diverſe *Arian* Biſhops, by whom (by his Countenance and Authority) the Orthodox Chriſtians were grievouſly perſecuted. And thus this Emperor, who would be ſtiled *Eternal Emperor*, and yet would not allow *Chriſt* to be *Eternal God*, and inſtead of being exceeding *Great*, became odious to all good men, was abhorred by his own Soldiers: and laſtly was loathed by himſelf; he ſaw his Honour buried before he dyed: became a tormentor to himſelf by jealouſies, fears and vexations, and theſe brought on a Fever, which ſoon put a period to his life. 55. In

55. In the Reign of *Julian*, one *George* an *Arian* Biſhop of *Alexandria*, having raged exceedingly againſt the *Orthodox*: yet would alſo ſhew his zeal againſt the Heathen Temples, which did ſo vex and exaſperate the Gentiles, that they, taking advantage of *Julian*'s coming to the Crown, roſe in a tumult, and ſeized upon Biſhop *George*, tyed him to a Camels tail, and dragged him through the ſtreets of *Alexandria*, and then they burnt both Biſhop and Camel in one fire. And thus God rendred to this *Heretical* Biſhop a recompence for all his villanies, and outrages done to the *Orthodox*.

56. *Valence*, another *Arian* Emperor, was a great countenancer and encourager of the *Hereſie*, and a Perſecutor of the *Orthodox*; inſomuch as when *Athanaſius* was dead in *Alexandria*, the Perſecution broke in like a Torrent, ſo that no man could ſtand before it: The *Orthodox* Churches both in City and Country were ſwallowed up, and deſtroyed by it. Yet this Flood ſtopped not there, but brake (as it were) out of the world into the wilderneſs among the *Monks*, where this Perſecution raged moſt of all, till the Heathen *Goths* paid the Debt of the people of God, by the death of

of the Emperor *Valence*, ſomewhat like that of *Julian*, ſaving that after his wounds received in the Battel, with much ado he got into a town for ſuccor, wherein, together with the whole town, he was by the purſuing *Goths* burnt alive.

57. Another *Conſtantine*, a *Monothelite*, being a cruel Perſecutor of the *Orthodox*, was ſlain by one of his own ſervants as he was waſhing himſelf in a Bath. *Hiſt. Magd.*

Genſericus, an *Arian* King of the *Vandals*, uſed a great deal of cruelty againſt the *Orthodox*; and in the end, he was poſſeſſed by an evil Spirit, and dyed miſerably. *P. Melan. Chron.*

58. *Hunricus*, a Son to a King of the *Vandals*, being an *Arian*, was a mercileſs Perſecutor of the *Orthodox*, baniſhing five thouſand of them at one time, among whom, ſome of them being unable to travel, he cauſed cords to be tyed to their legs, and to drag them through ſtony and rough places, whereby many of them periſhed. But not long after, God ſtruck him with venomous Biles all over his Body, and in the end he was conſumed by Lice. *H. Magd.*

Anaſtaſius the Emperor, a Patron of the

the *Eutychian Hereſie*, was a bloody Perſecutor of godly Chriſtians, and was ſlain by a Thunderbolt.

59. *Arcadius* the Emperour, having by the perſwaſion of *Eudoxia*, his Empreſs, who was a violent *Arian*, baniſhed *Chryſoſtom* from *Conſtantinople*: the very next night there was ſuch a terrible Earthquake, that the Emperor and all the people being extremely frighted, ſent one Poſt after another to fetch him back again.

60. *Theodoricus*, an *Arian* King of the *Goths*, perſecuted the ſound Chriſtians with all rigor and hoſtility, among whom he ſlew two noble Senators, *Symmachus*, and *Boetius*; But not long after the Lord ſtroke him with madneſs: And as he was ſitting at his Table, he had the head of a great Fiſh ſet before him, which he imagined to be the head of *Symachus*, whom he had ſlain, and thereupon he fell into ſuch fear and aſtoniſhment, that he ſoon after dyed. *Evagri.*

61. The *Arian Vandals* in *Africk* were cruel Perſecutors of the *Orthodox*, whereupon *Juſtinian* the Emperor ſent againſt them his brave General *Belizarius*, who overthrew them in ſeveral Battels, took *Gilimer* their King priſoner, and wholly ſub-

verted the Empire of the *Vandals* in *Africk*, after they had reigned there by the ſpace of ninety years, wherein, for the moſt part they had been merciles Perſecutors of the true Chriſtians.

Gods Judgements upon Popiſh Perſecutors.

62. About the year 1488 ſome Popiſh Biſhops in *Bohemia*, ſtirred up the Queen, who was then great with child, to move the King *Vladiſlaus*, ſeverely to puniſh the *Piccards*, as the godly Chriſtians were then called: and the Queen much pleaſed her ſelf in thinking what grateful Spectacles ſhe ſhould have, when ſhe ſhould ſee ſome of them burnt, others beheaded, and others drowned in the River: But it pleaſed God that before ſhe could ſee it effected, ſhe fell in travel, and could by no means be delivered of her burden; whereupon the *Phyſicians* adviſed that the child ſhould be cut out of her womb, which being done accordingly, the child lived, but the mother dyed.

63. Two years after, the Biſhops by their importunity prevailed with the King to uſe ſharp remedies againſt thoſe growing evils,

evils, as they called them: whereupon an *Edict* was drawn up, that all the *Piccards* in the Kingdom, without distinction of Age, Sex, or Quality should be slain. This was brought to the Assembly of States, then met at *Prague*, to be confirmed by them. Many of the Nobles opposed it; but by the subtilty of the Chancellor, and his Associats, it was at last agreed upon by the major part: and the Chancellour as he returned homeward from the Parliament, visited a Nobleman of his acquaintance, and told him with much joy, what they had resolved upon. The Nobleman had a Servant standing by, who was a great favourer of the Brethren, he asked him, how he liked this Decree? The Servant answered, that sure all parties were not agreed. The Chancellour, suspecting some secret Treachery, asked him, who durst oppose the States of the Kingdom? The Servant answered, *There is one in Heaven, who, if he were not present at your Counsels, you have consulted but in vain.* The Chancellour replyed, thou Knave, thou shalt find that, as well as the rest: And so, rising up in a fury, immediately a Carbuncle arose upon his Foot, which turned to a disease called *Ignis Sacer*, whereby he dyed in much misery.

64. Another who was a great ſtickler in promoting this Decree, in his return home-wards, as he was alighting out of his Chariot to make water, ſtruck his Member on a ſharp Nail that was in the Boot, whereby, as he went forward, he drew out his Entrails, and not long after gave up the Ghoſt.

Alſo one Dr. *Auſtin*, who by ſlanderous Libels had ſtirred up the King to this Perſecution, dyed ſuddenly as he ſate at Supper.

65. Another Noble-man who promoted the aforeſaid Decree, as he was a hunting, his Horſe threw him, and his own Arrow ran into his Thigh, and came out at his Loins, whereby he dyed a very painful death. And many others of them met with the like Judgments from God, whereupon it grew into a Proverb: *If you be a weary of your Life, attempt ſomething againſt the* Piccards, *and you ſhall not eſcape a year to an end.*

66. The year after two *German* Tradeſmen were apprehended at *Pragne*, and by the *Monks* there, were accuſed of *Lutheraniſm*, for which they were condemned and burnt: But one of their chief Perſecutors, who wiſhed that all the *Piccards* were hanged,

hanged, burned, or beheaded by his hands, it pleaſed God that all theſe evils befell himſelf: For, being exceedingly in debt, for very vexation, he hanged himſelf: And when his friends had buried him privately, the common people, hearing of it, dig'd up his carcaſs, and threw it away, which, by the Magiſtrates command, was ordered to be burnt: But when the Wood was conſumed. and the Body only ſcorched, his head was by one ſtricken off.

67. As *John Huſs* was going to *Conſtance*, there was one *Staniſlaus Znoma*, a *Bohemian*, who, as he was travelling toward the Council to accuſe him, was ſtricken by God with a deadly Impoſtume whereof he dyed in his journey.

This *Huſs* though he had the Emperors *ſafe conducti*, was coudemned and burnt there: Shortly after whoſe Death the *Bohemians* roſe in Arms under their undaunted General *Ziſca*, and had admirable ſucceſſes againſt the Emperor, and *Popiſh* Party. For they maintained war againſt the Emperor *Sigiſmund* by the ſpace of ſeventeen years together, wherein he ſpent an infinite Treaſure, loſt many brave Armies, and gallant men. And during theſe wars a thouſand *Monaſteries* were overthrown

and destroyed, many stately Castles demolished, and Cities plundered and burnt, which was Gods just revenging hand upon him for his perfidiousness.

68. In the late *Bohemian* Persecution, one Dr. *Knapper*, a great Persecutor of the godly Protestants, was slain by conspiracy of his own wife, who was an Adulteress; for which she was hanged.

69. Another of those Persecutors vomited out his ungodly Soul together with his Blood.

70. Another ran mad, and threw himself down from his own house, and so roaring fearfully, breathed his last.

71. Another shot himself dead with his own Pistol.

72. Another ran mad, and withal fell into so loathsome a disease, that none could endure his stink, and at last he was choaked in vomiting up of abundance of Blood.

73. Another was seized with a strange Disease, wherein his Body turned as black as a coal, and he uttered his speech like the barking of a Dog, and within the space of three Days, dyed in terrible pains.

74. Another by the breaking of a great Gun was torn all to pieces.

75. Another

75. Another was taken with a terrible Disease in the Throat, so that his Tongue rotted in his Mouth, and many holes were eaten in his Throat, by which both Food, and Physick came forth, so that he dyed in much misery.

76. *Ladislaus* King of *Bohemia*, together with diverse other *Popish* Princes had conspired together, utterly to root out the Protestants in that Kingdom, which should have been put in execution at the time of the Kings marriage: But a little before, in the middle of his great preparations, he fell sick, and within the space of six and thirty hours, he dyed of a pestilent sore in his Groin.

77. In *France*, *Minerius* Governour of *Provence* was sent with an Army by the King against those ancient Christians, the *Waldenses*, who used much cruelty against them, burning some, killing others, driving others into Woods, and Mountains, whereby they perished of Famine, and depopulated whole Towns and Villages. Not long after the Lord smote him with a terrible Disease, so that he felt like a burning fire within him from the Navel upward: and his lower parts rotted and were consumed with Vermin, which mor-

tification was attended with a grievous ſtink: he had alſo a profuſion of Blood inſtead of his Urine, and in thoſe extreme Torments, he ended his wretched Life.

78. *Simon Monfort*, Earl of *Leiceſter*, was a cruel Perſecutor of the godly *Albingenſes* under the King of *France*, and by the inſtigation of the *Pope*; But as he was beſieging ſome of them in *Tholous*, his head was ſtricken off by a Stone, which a woman let flye out of an Engine.

79. *Lewis*, King of *France*, beſieging *Avignion*, a City of the *Albingenſes*, vowed that he would never depart till he had taken it: But ſuddenly after, God ſent a dreadful Peſtilence into his Army, which daily waſted great numbers of his men: and the King himſelf was forced to quarter at a diſtance in an *Abby*, to avoid the infection, where ſhortly after he dyed out of his wits.

80. *Truchetus* an old expert Captain was imployed by the Duke of *Savoy* againſt the *Waldenſes*, who were a naked and unarmed people: But whileſt he was proſecuting of them, he was firſt ſore wounded with Stones, and afterwards, ſlain with his own ſword by a poor Shepherd, who was keeping Cattel in the Field.

81. The

81. The Lord of *Reveſt*, Chief Preſident of the Parliament at *Aix* in *France*, put many godly Perſons to death: but ſhortly after, himſelf was put out of his Office, and was ſtricken by God with ſuch an horrible Diſeaſe as made him run mad, that none of his Friends durſt come near him, and ſo he periſhed miſerably.

82. After him ſucceeded in his Office one *Bartholomew Caſſinæus*, who proved alſo a peſtilent Perſecutor, whom the Lord ſtruck with a fearful and ſudden Death.

83. *Johannes de Roma*, a *Monk*, was a bloody and implacable Perſecutor of the *Waldenſes*. His manner was to fill Boots with boiling Oil and put their Legs into them, tying them backward over a Form, their Legs hanging down over a ſoft fire, and afterwards cruelly to put them to Death, and ſeized upon their Goods. But not long after his own Servants rob'd him of thoſe ill-gotten Goods: and he fell into a horrible Diſeaſe unknown to any *Phiſician*; the pains and torments whereof did ſo inceſſantly vex him, that he could, by no means have one minutes reſt, neither could any endure to come near him by reaſon of his horrible ſtink. His body was full

of

of Sores and Ulcers, which ſwarmed with Vermin, ſo that rotting, his fleſh fell of by piece-meal. In which torment he often cryed out, *O! who will deliver me, who will kill me, and deliver me out of theſe intollerable torments?* and ſo languiſhing in anguiſh and deſpair, he ended his curſed Life.

84. *John Martin*, another great enemy to the *Waldenſes*, uſed to boaſt every where that he would ſlit the noſe of one of their chief Miniſters: but before he could effect it, a Wolf meeting him, bit off his Noſe, whereupon he ran mad, and died miſerably.

85. The Cardinal of *Lorrain*, a principal Pillar of the Houſe of *Guiſe*, a crafty and cruel Perſecutor of the people of God, as he was coming from *Rome* with a purpoſe of ſtirring up the Kings of *France* and *Poland* utterly to root out the Proteſtants in their Dominions: It pleaſed God to work ſo wonderfully for his peoples ſafety, that by the way he fell mad at *Avignion*, and dyed in the Flower of his youth. At the inſtant of whoſe Death, there fell out ſuch a dreadful Tempeſt as made all to be amazed at it.

86. *Bellemont*, a Counſellor of the Parliament

liament of *Provence*, was ſo haſty to condemn the poor people of God, that he went not from the Judgment Hall from Morning till Night, cauſing his Dinners to be brought to him. But whileſt he was ſo buſie in this way of Perſecution, there began a little Sore to riſe upon his Foot, which quickly grew red, and full of pain, and ſo encreaſed the firſt day, that by Judgment of *Chyrurgeons*, there was no hope of cure but by cutting off his Foot, which he refuſing, they uſed all other means they could deviſe, yet the ſecond day the whole Leg was infected, and the third day his whole Thigh, and the fourth day his whole Body, upon which day he dyed. His dead Body was all over parched as if it had been roaſted by a fire.

87. A Judge of the City of *Aix*, who was a great Perſecutor of the Proteſtants, drowned himſelf in the River.

A chief Judge, who was a principal Inſtrument in condemning the *Waldenſes* in *Merindol*, and *Cabriers*, died ſuddenly, not living to ſee his bloody Sentence executed.

88. *John Cranequin*, a Lawyer of *Bourges*, who was a great Informer againſt the People of God, to bring them into the cruel

cruel Inquiſition, was ſtricken by God with a marvellous ſtrange Phrenſie, ſo that whatever he ſaw ſeemed to him to be crawling Serpents: And having in vain uſed all ſorts of Medicines, yea, and wicked *Sorcery* too, at length was quite bereaved of his Senſes, and ſo ended his wretched Life in much miſery.

89. Chancellour *Prat*, who put up the firſt Bill in the Parliament of *France*, againſt thoſe of that Religion, and gave out the firſt Commiſſions for the putting of them to death; dyed himſelf not long after, fearfully ſwearing, and blaſpheming the name of God, and had his Stomach gnawn in pieces by worms in a ſtrange manner.

90. *John Morin*, a mighty Enemy to the Profeſſors of the Truth, who made it his whole buſineſs to apprehend and accuſe them, dyed himſelf in moſt grievous, and horrible torments.

91. The Chancellor *Oliver*, who had been himſelf a Profeſſor of the truth, apoſtatizing from the ſame, was reſtored to his Office, in which he ſpared not to ſhed much innocent Blood: But whileſt he was thus buſied, a fearful Judgment befel him (as was foretold by ſome of thoſe Innocents

cents whom he condemned) for falling into extreme terrors of Conſcience, he betook himſelf to his bed, ſighing and ſobing without intermiſſion, and breathing forth murmurings againſt God; yea, his horrors were ſo violent that he ſhaked the Bed under him, as if a young man with all his Strength had done it. And a certain Cardinal coming to viſit him, he could not endure his ſight, crying out, that it was that Cardinal that had brought him to Damnation. He continued long under theſe dreadful torments, and dyed at laſt in deſpairing fear and anguiſh.

92. *Poncher*, Arch-Biſhop of *Tours*, who condemned many godly perſons to the Fire, was himſelf ſeized upon with a fire from God; which, beginning at his heel, could by no means be cured, till one Member after another being cut off, he dyed in much miſery.

93. An *Auſtin Friar* called *Lambert*, a Dr. and Prior in the City of *Lieg*, and one of the bloody Inquiſitors, as he was one day preaching bitterly againſt the Proteſtants, was ſtricken ſpeechleſs, and being carried out of his Pulpit into his Cloiſter, he was ſhortly after found drowned in a Ditch.

94. *Au-*

94, *Augustine Marlorat*, a Learned, painful, and holy Preacher in *Roan*, was condemned to be hang'd, and drawn on a Hurdle to the place of execution: The Constable of *France* loaded him with a thousand reproaches and outrages, as also did Monsieur *Monbrun*, the Constables son, who shortly after was slain in the battel of *Dreux*: Also one *Villibon* gave him a switch with a wand, adding many reproachful speeches therewith, which *Marlorat* bore with admirable patience and meekness: And when he was executed and dead, the malice of his Adversaries rested not there: For one of the Soldiers struck on his Legs with his Sword: But speedy vengeance from God pursued his Persecutors: For the *Popish* Captain that apprehended him was slain within three weeks after, by the basest Soldier in all his Company: And two of his Judges dyed very strangely soon after; namely, the President of the Parliament, by a flux of blood, which could by no art, nor means be stopped: The other being a Counsellor, voided his Urine at his Fundament, which was accompanied with such an intollerable stink, that none could endure to come near him. *Villebon* also who switched him,

sped

ſped no better. For a while after the Marſhal *Vielle Ville*, coming to *Roan* about publick Affairs, invited *Villebon* to dinner, and in diſcourſe, lamenting the miſeries of that City, he exhorted him to reform many abuſes, ſeeing he was the Kings Lievtenant there. *Villebon* took this ſo ill, that he ſaid, *If any man dare tax me for not behaving my ſelf as I ought in my place, I would tell him to his face that he lyed.* Theſe words he repeated over ſo often, that the Marſhal being much urged, ſtruck at him with his Sword, with ſuch violence, that, had he not received the blow with his Arm, his head had been cleft to the Teeth. Thus for the preſent he eſcaped with the loſs of that hand wherewith he had ſtricken *Marlorat* in ſo diſgraceful a manner at the place of Execution.

95. A young Gentlewoman of about three and twenty years old, came from *Gaſcoine* to *Paris*, to join her-ſelf to the Proteſtant Church there: And after a while, ſhe among others, was apprehended, impriſoned, and condemned to be burnt, which ſhe endured with admirable patience and conſtancy, but preſently two of them that bore witneſs againſt her, falling out, the one ſlew the other with a knife.

96. *Charles*

96. *Gharles Cominck*, who had been a *Friar* in the City of *Gaunt*, after his converſion, was apprehended, and condemned, but after his execution, one of his greateſt Adverſaries, who had a chief hand in his Death, fell into ſuch grievous horrors and terrors of Conſcience, that he dyed within a few days.

97. Dr. *Ægidio*, a godly Preacher in *Sevil*, being brought into the Inquiſition, and uſed miſerably by them, before they proceeded to condemn him, it pleaſed God, that three of the Inquiſitors, who were his greateſt adverſaries, dyed, by which good Providence, he was releaſed, and lived ſome years after.

98. The Emperor *Ferdinand* the ſecond, was a great Perſecutor of the Proteſtants in *Bohemia* and *Germany*, who after his Victory over *Frederick*, Prince Palatine, and the *Bohemian* States, made it his work to root out the Proteſtant Religion in thoſe Countries, and turned them into a very ſhambles of Blood, ſparing neither Age, Sex, nor Rank that refuſed to abjure the Truth. But whileſt he was in his full Carier, God brought in againſt him a contemptible people [the *Swedes*,] under whoſe Swords moſt of thoſe bloody wretches

wretches fell; who were the *Bohemian* Scourges, ſo that much of *Germany*, and of the Emperors Country was a very *Aceldama*, a Field of Blood. The Emperor's great Army, conſiſting of twenty four thouſand, that had given Laws to *Germany* for many years together, and were looked upon as ſo many Captains by reaſon of their long practice and experience, was broken in the plain Field. And the Emperor himſelf being broken with breach upon breach, was forced to ſuch terms as the Enemies could be drawn to.

Examples of Gods Judgments upon Popiſh Perſecutors in England, *and* Scotland.

99. Sir *Thomas Moor*, and *Fiſher*, Biſhop of *Rocheſter*, who were great Perſecutors of the Proteſtants in the Reign of King *Henry* the Eighth, were themſelves not long after condemned for Treaſon, and beheaded.

100. *Philips*, who betrayed Mr. *Tindal* to the Emperors Secretary, fell into a grievous Diſeaſe, and was eaten up of Lice.

101. *Pavier*, The Town-clerk of *London*,

don, a cruel Enemy to the true Professors of the Gospel, swore a great Oath, that if he thought the King would set forth the Scriptures in *English*, rather than he would live to see it, he would cut his own Throat. But he brake Promise (saith the Author) for instead thereof he hanged himself.

Foxford, Chancellour to *Stokesley*, Bishop of *London*, a bloody Persecutor, and the common Butcher of Gods Saints, dyed suddenly, sitting in his Chair, his Belly breaking, and his Guts falling out before him.

102. *Rockwood*, who was a great stirrer up of the Persecution against Gods people in *Calis*, suddenly fell sick, staring, raging, and crying out, *All to late: For I have maliciously sought the Death of many godly Persons, and that against mine own Conscience: and therefore all to late; All to late*: and thus he continued unto his end.

103. The under Marshal also, who at the same time was a Persecutor, fell down dead in the Council Chamber, and never spake word after.

104. *Adam Damlip*, a godly Preacher in *Calis*, was falsly accused of Treason, for which he was condemned, and executed;

cuted; and when he would have purged himſelf, Sir *Ralph Ellerker* would not ſuffer him to ſpeak, but commanded him to be carried away to execution, ſaying, That he would not depart till he ſaw the Traitors heart out: But ſhortly after, in a skirmiſh againſt the *French*, this *Ellerker* was ſlain, and after they had ſtripped him naked, they cut off his Privy Members, and pulled out his Heart, which they did not to any other of the ſlain.

105. Dr. *Story*, a Bloody Perſecutor in Queen *Marys* Days, when Queen *Elizabeth* came to the Crown, could not forbear to curſe her dayly in his Grace at Board; for which trayterous practice he was deſervedly hanged.

106. *John Twiford*, a furious *Papiſt*, that uſed to ſet up Stakes for them that were burnt in *Smithfield*, dyed, rotting above ground, ſo that none could endure to come near unto him by reaſon of his horrible ſtink.

107. *William Gardiner*, an *Engliſh* Merchant, being preſent in *Liſbon* at the marriage of the King of *Portugal*'s Son with the King of *Spain*'s Daughter, and ſeeing the abominable Idolatry then uſed in the preſence of the King; and of all the States

there assembled, he stepped to the Cardinal, who was celebrating of *Mass*, and plucked the Cake out of his hand, and trampled it under his Feet, and overthrew the Chalice: For which, by most exquisite torments in a horrible manner they put him to death by degrees, and then burned him, a Spark of whose Fire, was driven by the wind a great way into one of the Kings Ships lying in the Haven, and quite consumed it: and within half a year after the new married Prince dyed; and the year after the King himself dyed also.

108. Cardinal *Woolsey*, after much opposition against the Light of the Gospel which brake forth in his time, and much cruelty used against the Professors of it, fell into disgrace with King *Henry* the Eighth, who sent for him up out of *Yorkshire*, and in his journey (suspecting the issue) he took such a strong Purge, as his rotten Body not being able to bear, he dyed at the Abby of *Leceſter*. His dead Body was as black as Pitch, and so heavy that six men could scarcely bear it, and it stank so intollerably that they were fain to hasten the Burial of it in the Night, at which time there was such an hiddeous Tempest, as blew out all the Torches, and the

the Storm was accomponied with ſuch a ſtink, that they were glad to throw him into his Grave, and ſo to leave him.

109. Judge *Morgan* who paſſed Sentence of Condemnation upon the incomparable Lady *Jane Dudley*, ſhortly after ran mad, and in his raving fits, cryed out continually to have the Lady *Jane* taken away from him, and ſo he continued till he dyed.

110. *Morgan*, Biſhop of S. *Davids* in *Wales*, who condemned the Bleſſed Martyr Mr. *Ferrar*, and unjuſtly uſurped his Biſhopriek, not long after was ſtricken by God in a moſt ſtrange manner. For his food would not go down, but pick up again, ſometimes at his Mouth, ſometimes blown out at his Noſe, moſt horrible to behold: and thus he continued a Spectacle of Gods diſpleaſure, till he dyed.

111. Mr. *Leyſon* alſo who was Sheriff at the burning of Mr. *Ferrar*, having fetched away his Cattle, and put them into his own Grounds, diverſe of them would never eat any meat, but continued bellowing and roaring till they dyed.

112. Dr. *Duning*, Chancellour of *Norwich*, who was a Bloody Perſecutor in the Reign of Queen *Mary*, was ſtricken

ſuddenly as he ſate in his Chair, and dyed.

113. *Berry*, Commiſſary of *Norfolk*, another Bloody Perſecutor, as he was walking with one of his Concubines, fell down ſuddenly with a heavy groan, and never ſtirr'd after.

114. A perſecuting Suffragan of *Dover*, having been with Cardinal *Pool* for his Bleſſing, coming out of the Cardinal's Chamber, fell down the ſtairs, and brake his Neck.

115. Biſhop *Thornton*, another cruel Perſecutor, as he was looking upon his men at Bowls upon a *Sabbath-Day*, fell ſuddenly into a Palſie, and being carried to his Bed, and willed to remember the Lord: yea, (ſaid he) *So I do: and my Lord Cardinal too:* and ſo he dyed.

116. Dr. *Jeffery*, Chancellour of *Salisbury*; a wretched Perſecutor, who had appointed to call before him ninety godly Perſons, and to examine them by Inquiſition, the Day before, as he was looking upon his Buildings, fell down ſuddenly and dyed.

117. *Thomas Blaver*, a Privy Counſellor to the King of *Scots*, was a great Perſecutor of the Faithful in that Land: But being by

by God ſtruck with ſickneſs, he fell into Deſpair, crying out *That he was damned, and a Caſt-away: That he was damned without remedy.* In which miſerable condition he dyed without any ſign of true repentance.

118. *Henry*, Arch-Biſhop of *Mentz*, a godly, and religious man, was accuſed as being guilty of Hereſie to the *Pope*, who ſent two of his Cardinals to examine the matter: and they moſt unjuſtly depoſed him, and caſt him out of his place, whereupon he ſaid unto them: *If I ſhould from your unjuſt Sentence appeal unto the Pope, 'tis like I ſhould find no redreſs from him; wherefore I appeal to the Lord Jeſus Chriſt, that juſt and righteous Judge of all the world, and cite you to anſwer me before his Judgment Seat, for this unjuſt act of yours.* To which they ſcoffingly anſwered, *Go you firſt, we will follow after.* Not long after this, the good Arch-Biſhop dyed, which, when the Cardinals heard of, they ſaid jeſtingly one to another: *Behold, he is now gone before, and we muſt follow after according to our Promiſe.* And indeed ſhortly after they both dyed upon one day. The one, ſitting upon a Jakes voided out his Entrails: The other, gnawing his own Fingers, and

having made himſelf deformed with devouring himſelf; he dyed miſerably.

119. About the year 1507. there was at *Chipping Sadbury* a godly woman convented before the Chancellour [Dr. *Whittington*] by whom ſhe was condemned to be burnt. And againſt the day of her Execution, multitudes of people flocked to the Town, and among the reſt, Dr. *Whittington* came to ſee her burnt. At the ſame time there was a Butcher in another part of the Town that was killing a Bull: But the Butcher, ſomewhat miſſing his blow, the Bull broke looſe juſt as the people were coming from ſeeing the Execution of the Martyr: The people, ſeeing the Bull coming, divided themſelves, and made a lane for him to paſs through, the Bull went through, without hurting, man, woman, or child, till he came to the place where the Chancellour was, againſt whom he ran very furiouſly, and with his Horns, hitting him on the Belly, ran through it, and tearing out his Guts with his Horns, trailed them about the Streets, to the great aſtoniſhment of all that beheld it.

120. At the burning of *Alexander Gouge*, and *Alice Driver*, Martyrs, there was one

Bate,

Bate, a Barber, that was a very buſie man about burning them: but preſently after Gods ſevere Judgment fell upon him, ſo that within three or four weeks after, he dyed in much miſery.

121. In the Reign of Queen *Mary*, one of the Sheriffs of *London*, called Mr. *Woodroſe*, uſed Mr. *Bradford* very churliſhly at the time of his Execution, as he had dealt with Mr. *Rogers* before. He uſed alſo to laugh, and make himſelf ſport at the ſufferings of theſe innocent perſons, and uſed to beat away the people who were deſirous to ſhake them by the hand before their Death: but the Lord (who uſually puniſheth ſuch bloody Perſecutors) ſhortly after ſtruck him with lameneſs upon one ſide, that he could never after turn him in his Bed. He had alſo a Dog-like Appetite, that could never be ſatisfied with Food: and in this miſery he continued by the ſpace of eight years, even till he dyed.

122. *Adam Foſter* of *Mendleſham* in *Suffolk*, was apprehended by one *Thomas Mouſe*, and *George Rivet* for not coming to *Maſs*, and by them was carried before Sir *John Tyrel*, who ſent him to the Biſhop of *Norwich*. But it pleaſed God that

Mouſe

Mouſe, was immediately after ſtricken with a grievous diſeaſe, whereof he ſhortly after dyed: And *Rivet* (not warned thereby, but) perſevering in his perſecuting ways, had a great ſwelling that roſe in his Legs, which grievouſly vexed, and tormented him; and at laſt, falling into a fearful Diſeaſe, he dyed miſerably, and in ſo impatient a manner, as terrified all that heard thereof.

123. *George Eagles*, Martyr, who was hanged at *Chelmesford* in *Eſſex*, was cut down before he was dead, and ſadly mangled by one *William Swallow*, Bayliff of *Chelmesford:* His Body being opened, they pulled out his heart, and quartered him, and ſet up his Quarters in ſeveral places. But ſhortly after, Gods terrible Judgments fell upon this *Swallow*, ſo that his Hair fell from his Head, his Eyes were ſo cloſed that he could ſcarce ſee, the Nails fell off from his Fingers and Toes, and a Leproſie over-ſpread his whole Body, and his Eſtate ſo melted away that he fell into Beggary, and dyed in much miſery.

124. *William Seaman*, *Thomas Carman*, and *Thomas Hudſon* were apprehended in *Norfolk:* Their Perſecutor was Sir *John Tyrel*,

Tyrel, who commanded his Servants to ſearch for *Seaman:* One of their names was *Robert Baldwin*, a Neighbour to *Seaman*, and one in whom he put much confidence. Yet this treacherous perſon (to gratifie his Mr.) ſearched *Seamans* houſe in the Night, and finding him at home, carried him Priſoner to his Maſter. As they went in the way a ſtrange Light fell from Heaven betwixt them: After which, this *Baldwin*, though then in the Flower of his Age, never enjoyed good day, but pined away till he dyed.

125. Mr. *William Brown*, Miniſter of *Little-Stanham* in *Suffolk*, for preaching boldly, and faithfully againſt the *Maſs*, was perſecuted by on *Robert Bloomfield*, Conſtable there. But the terrible hand of God fell upon him, both by Sickneſs, and Conſumption of his Eſtate, ſo that, being rich before, he became poor. His Wife alſo, and his Son dyed of pining Sickneſs. And though he thought to repair his Eſtate, by marrying a rich Widdow, yet God ſtill blowed upon it. His Body alſo was full of Botches and Sores, and being thus afflicted in Body, and impoveriſhed in his Eſtate, he dyed in miſery.

126. There was in *Lancaſhire*, one Juſtice

Juſtice *Leland*, who was a great Perſecutor of the godly in thoſe parts: He one day as he was ſitting in his Chair, and diſcourſing with his friends, fell down ſuddenly and dyed, never ſo much as once ſtirring after.

127. *Ralph Lardin*, the Betrayer of *George Eagles* aforementioned, was himſelf arraigned, condemned, and hanged. As he ſtood at the Bar, he ſaid publickly, *This is juſtly faln upon me for betraying the Blood of that juſt and holy man*, George Eagles, *who, through my means was condemned, and I ſold his life for a little money.*

128. Mr. *Swingfield*, a Deputy in *Thames-Street*, hearing that Mrs. *Angel*, a Midwife, and a gracious woman, was at a Gentlewomans Labour in *Crooked-Lane*, taking three others with him, he beſet the Houſe, and apprehended her, and carried her unto ſome of Biſhop *Bonner*'s Officers, who put her into *Lollards Tower*. This Mrs. *Angel* was great with child, and by reaſon of the fright, and a fall which ſhe caught at her apprehenſion, ſhe fell into Labour the next day, and was delivered in Priſon, having no woman with her, to help her in her extremity. But within ten

ten weeks after, Deputy *Swingfield*, and all the other three that came with him to aſſiſt him, all of them dyed.

129. There was one *Burton*, the Bayliff of *Crowland* in *Lincolnſhire*, who in King *Edward* the Sixth's time, was a ſeemingly zealous Proteſtant: But when Queen *Mary* came to the Crown, he ſoon turned *Papiſt*, and endeavoured to ſtir up his Neighbours to introduce the *Maſs*. They, not being forward in it, the *Sabbath* following this *Burton* went to the Church, and when the Curate was beginning to read the *Engliſh Service*, *Burton* went to him, ſaying, *Sirrah, will you not ſay Maſs? Buckle your ſelf to it, you Knave, or by Gods Blood, I will ſheath my Dagger in your Shoulders.* The poor Curate, being affrighted herewith, betook himſelf to read *Maſs:* But ſhortly after, as this *Burton*, with one of his Neighbours, rode together upon the Fenbank, a Crow, (with her uſual Note) flew over his head, and voiding her Excrements, it fell on his Noſe, and ran down upon his Beard, and ſtank ſo horribly as ſet him a vomiting in a moſt violent manner: whereupon, haſting home, he betook himſelf to his Bed, but could eat nothing: And the Stink, and vomiting ſtill

ſtill continuing, with fearful Oaths and Execrations, he curſed the Crow for thus poiſoning of him; and ſo continued in extreme torments till he dyed.

130. There was one *James Abbes* burnt at *Bury* for Religion: As he went to the Stake, ſome poor people met him, begging his Alms, and becauſe he had no money to give them, he plucked of his Apparel, to his very ſhirt, and diſtributed it among them, exhorting them to be ſtrong in the Lord: and (as faithful followers of *Jeſus Chriſt*) to ſtand ſtedfaſt in the truth of the Goſpel, which, (ſaid he) *with Gods aſſiſtance, I will now, in your ſight, ſeal with my Blood.* Whileſt he was thus exhorting them, there came one of the Sheriffs men, who, hearing what he ſaid, cryed out to the people moſt blaſphemouſly, ſaying, Good People, believe him not, for 'tis Hereſie that he ſpeaketh. And as *Abbes* continued his godly Exhortations, ſo this wicked wretch belched out his blaſphemous Exclamations, till they came to the Stake. As ſoon as the Fire was kindled. Gods fearful vengeance fell upon this wicked wretch; who, immediately, in all the peoples ſight, fell diſtracted, wherewith (a little before) he had charged

charged this Bleſſed Servant of *Jeſus Chriſt*: And in a furious manner, pulling off his cloaths, he ſaid, *Thus did* James Abbes, *the true Servant of God, who is ſaved, but I am damn'd.* And ſo he ran about the Town, ſtill crying out, James Abbes *was a good man, and is ſaved, but I am damn'd*, Hereupon his Maſter cauſed him to be bound, clothed, and kept in a dark room, but as ſoon as the company was departed he tore off his cloths, ſtill raging, and crying out, James Abbes *was the true Servant of God, and is ſaved, but I am damned:* And thus he continued till he dyed.

131. One *Dale*, a Promoter and Perſecutor in Queen *Marys* days, was eaten up by Lice, and dyed miſerably.

Alexander, the Keeper of *Newgate*, a mercileſs Enemy to thoſe that lay there for Religion, and who uſed to go to Biſhop *Bonner*, and his Officers, crying out, *Rid my Priſon: Rid my Priſon: I am too much peſtered with theſe Hereticks*: By Gods juſt Judgment he fell into a grievous Diſeaſe: His Body was ſo much ſwoln that he was more like a Monſter than a man, and his Entrails ſo rotted that none could endure the ſtink of him. And his Son *James*, to

to whom he left a great Eſtate, ſoon conſumed it, ſaying in a jeering manner, ill gotten, ill ſpent. At laſt, as he went through *Newgate-Market*, he fell down ſuddenly and dyed.

132. Alſo *John Peter*, *Alexander*'s Son in Law, was an horrible Blaſphemer, and uſed upon every occaſion to ſay, *If it be not ſo, I pray God, I may rot before I dye.* He was alſo very cruel to the poor Servants of God in Priſon. And God paid him home in his own coin: For according to his Imprecation, his Body rottted away by piece-meal till he dyed.

133. One *Lever* of *Brightwel* in *Barkſhire*,, jeeringly ſaid, That he ſaw that ill-favoured Knave. *Latimer*, when he was burned at *Oxford:* and that he had Teeth like an Horſe: But the Lord ſuffered not this profane ſcoff to go unpuniſhed. For about that very ſame Hour wherein *Lever* ſpake thoſe words, his Son hanged himſelf.

134. All ages have cauſe to admire, and adore the Exemplary Judgments of God poured out upon *Stephen Gardiner*, Biſhop of *Winchester*, in Queen *Marys* days; who upon the day wherein Reverend *Latimer*, and Learned *Ridley* were to be burnt at *Oxford*,

Oxford, (though ſome great Peers came to dine with him that day, yet) would not ſit down to dinner, till one of his Servants about four a Clock in the Afternoon, coming Poſt from *Oxford*, brought word that Execution was done upon them. Then did he haſt to Dinner, and was very merry, but ere he had eaten many bits, a ſudden ſtroke of Gods hand fell upon him, ſo that he was carried immediately to his Bed, in which he continued for fifteen days in intollerable anguiſh and torments, rotting above ground, during all which time he could void nothing that he received, neither by Stool, nor Urine, his Tongue alſo hung out of his mouth ſwoln, and black, and ſo he languiſhed and pined away in great anguiſh and miſery.

135. King *James* the Fifth of *Scotland*, by the inſtigation of the *Popiſh* Clergy, was a great Perſecutor of the Truth that then brake forth in that Kingdom: and for that end he gave Commiſſion to Sir *James Hamilton*, natural Brother to the Earl of *Arran*, who was his Treaſurer, to call, and convent all that were ſuſpected of *Hereſie*, and to inflict upon them the puniſhment, which, after tryal, they ſhould be found to deſerve: In Execution of which Com-

miſſion he was moſt fierce and cruel, not ſparing ſome that were of his near Kindred. But when he was in his greateſt heighth, and made it his work to ſuppreſs the Goſpel, one of his own Friends, whom he purſued upon the account of Religion, accuſed him of Treaſon, and notwithſtanding the mediation of the *Popiſh* Clergy for him, as their greateſt Patron, he was arraigned, condemned, executed, and quartered in the ſtreets of *Edenburg*.

This King *James* alſo was heard to ſay, that none of that way ſhould expect any favour at his hands, nay, nor his own Sons if they ſhould be found guilty. But ſhortly after, War breaking forth with *England*, he found his Nobility averſe to thoſe Incurſions which he intended to make into *England*, which much vexed him. Theſe thoughts, and ſome fearful Viſions which he had by Night, terrified him exceedingly. For at *Linlithgow*, on a night as he ſlept, it ſeemed to him that *Thomas Scot*, Juſtice Clerk, came unto him, with a company of Devils, crying, *Wo worth the day that ever I knew thee, or thy Service: For ſerving thee againſt God and his Servants, I am now adjudged to Hell torments.* Hercupon awaking, he called for

for Lights, and told his Servants what he had heard and seen. The next morrow, by the light of day, news was brought him of the death of the said Justice Clerk, which fell out just at the same time when the King had this Vision, and almost in the same manner: For he dyed in great horror, often reiterating those words, *By the righteous Judgment of God, I am condemned.* And this manner of his death, answering so exactly to the Kings Dream made it the more terrible.

The King also had another Dream in the same place a few nights after, which did more affright him. Whilest he lay sleeping, he thought that Sir *James Hamilton* aforesaid, came unto him with a naked Sword in his Hand, and therewith cut off both his Arms; threatening to return within a short time, and to deprive him of his life. With this he awaked, and as he lay musing what this Dream should import, news was brought him of the death of his two Sons, *James*, and *Arthur*, the one dying at S. *Andrews*, the other at *Stirling*, at one and the very same hour. The next year, which was 1542. being overwhelmed with grief, he dyed at *Falkland* in the two and thirtieth year of his

Age. A little before he dyed, word was brought him that his Queen was delivered of a Daughter; whereupon he brake forth into a Paſſion, ſaying: *It came with a Laſs*, (meaning the Crown) *and will go with a Laſs. Fie upon it.*

136. One Friar *Campbell* in *Scotland* did bitterly rail upon that man of God, Mr. *Patrick Hamilton* whileſt he was burning at S. *Andrews*: to whom Mr. *Hamilton* ſaid with much earneſtneſs: *Thou wicked man, thou knoweſt the contrary, and haſt ſometime made a Profeſſion of the truth: I appeal thee to anſwer it before the Judgment Seat of* Chriſt: A few days after *Campbel* fell ſick, and in great horror of Conſcience dyed diſtracted.

137. *Anno* 1568. There was in *Breda* one *Peter Coulogne*, a godly man, who, by his *Popiſh* Adverſaries was caſt into Priſon, and his Maid-ſervant daily carried him his Food, confirming and comforting him out of the word of God as well as ſhe was able; for which they impriſoned her alſo. Not long after *Peter* was put to the torment of the Rack, which he endured patiently. After him the Maid was fetch'd to be racked, whereupon, ſhe ſaid; *My Maſters, wherefore will ye put me to this torture, ſeeing*

I have

I have no way offended you? If it be for my Faith-ſake, ye need not torment me: For, as I was never aſhamed to make a Confeſſion thereof, no more will I now be at this preſent before you; but will if you pleaſe freely ſhew you my mind therein. Yet for all this they would have her to the Rack: whereupon ſhe again ſaid, *If I muſt needs ſuffer this pain, pray you give me leave to call upon my God firſt.* This they aſſented to; and whileſt ſhe was fervently pouring out her Soul unto God by Prayer, one of the Commiſſioners was ſurpriſed with ſuch fear and terror that he fell into a ſwoon, out of which he could never be recovered, by which means the poor Maid eſcaped racking.

138. In the Reign of King *Henry* the Second of *France*, there was a godly Tailor condemned to be burnt for Religion, and ſome about the King would needs perſwade him to be preſent, and to ſee the Execution himſelf: And God gave the Tailor ſuch ſtrength and conrage in the fire as aſtoniſhed the King to behold it: And the poor Tailor, having eſpied the King in a window where he ſate, fixed his Eyes ſo ſtedfaſtly upon him, as they were never off, and the King was thereby conſtrained to

leave the window, and to retire into his Chamber, and was ſo affected therewith, that he confeſſed the ſhadow of the Taylor followed him whither ſoever he went, and for many Nights after he was ſo terrified with the Apparitions of the Taylor, that he proteſted with an Oath, that he would never hear, nor ſee any more of thoſe *Lutherans* burned.

139. In the late Rebellion, and Perſecution of *Ireland*, *John Nicholſon*, and *Anne* his wife were received into the Protection of one *Fitz-Patrick*, who would have perſwaded them to change their Religion and to go to *Maſs*: But they profeſſed that before they would do that, they would dye upon the Swords point. Then he laboured to prevail with the woman to burn her Bible, but ſhe ſaid, that before ſhe would do it, ſhe would dye the death: whereupon the *Sabbath* morning following, they were both of them cruelly murthered: But he that acted that villany, was ſo tormented in Conſcience: and dogged with their Apparitions, that he pined away and dyed.

140. In the late *Iriſh* Maſſacre, wherein the bloody *Papiſts* ſpared none of what Age, Sex, or quality ſoever; O! how viſibly did the Judgments of God follow them?

them? And for that ſavage Blood-ſhed, gave them Blood to drink in great meaſure: For *Mac-Guir Mac-Mahun*, and Sir *Philem Oneal*, being taken Priſoners, were publickly executed. Moſt of the reſt were conſumed by the Sword, either in their own Countrey, or in Foreign parts, and their ſpirits were generally ſo debaſed, and their courage emaſculated, that a few *Engliſh*, or *Scottiſh* Soldiers would chaſe multitudes of them; and Gods Judgments did ſo eminently follow them, that within a few years moſt of that cruel Generation were rooted out.

Of Gods Judgments upon Perſecutors in Germany, Spain, *and* France.

141. The Electoral Houſe of *Saxony*, upon the deveſting of that brave and pious Prince *John Frederick*, the true Heir, by the Emperor *Charles* the Fifth, and the inveſting the younger Houſe to uſurp that Honour, hath ever ſince proved a greater Friend to the *Popiſh* Party, than to the purer Church of the *French*, and *Helvetick* Confeſſion. *Maurice* that uſurped the Dutchy and Electorate, upon the captivating of the ſaid *John Frederick*, his Couſin, firſt

ruined the Princes of the *Smalcaldick* Union, to which himself had subscribed; and then (casting an ambitious eye upon the Empire it self:) broke his Faith with the Emperor that had raised him; and having patched up the defection by the help of *Ferdinand* of *Austria*, King of *Bohemia* (afterwards Emperor) he lastly perished by a violent death in a pitch'd Battel fought against his Fellow-Protestants. A just Judgment of God upon him.

142. *Charles* the Fifth, having obtained the Empire by the help and monies of our King *Henry* the Eighth, was the most potent Emperor that ever *Germany* had as long as he maintained the peace of Religion: But having yielded to the *Popes* instigations, and prospered a while in his intended extirpation of the Truth, he found at last by sad experience, what his brave, and valiant General [*Castaldus*] had foretold him, that these violent proceedings would in the end prove fatal to himself: For having first fled away at Midnight, in a cold and rainy season from *Onspurch*, for fear of the Protestant Army, he was afterward (instead of setling his Son *Philip* in his Imperial Throne, as he had intended)

forced

forced to ſurrender the Empire to his Brother *Ferdinand*, who diverſe years before had entred into a ſecret League with the Proteſtant Princes of *Germany*, and ſo having lived a few years in a deſpiſed, and diſconſolate condition, he at laſt ended his life moſt inglorioufly in a Monaſtery.

143. His Son *Philip* the Second, King of *Spain*, the moſt inveterate Enemy of the Goſpel that ever lived, did not only erect Shambles for Gods Saints in moſt of his large Dominions, by his bloody Inquiſitors, but ſtill aided the Rebels in *France*, *England*, and *Ireland* againſt their lawful Sovereigns, and plotted to invade all other Proteſtant Dominions in Chriſtendom, ſo at laſt by one general Carriage of them all, he and his holy Father the *Pope*, might have ſhared the Chriſtian World by a double Monarchy, of the Church and Empire between them. But did this bloody Prince proſper in theſe his ambitious and cruel Deſigns? Nothing leſs. For what got he by his invading *France* by Land, and *England*, and *Ireland* by Sea, and by his large Penſions conferred upon the Traitors and ſecret Enemies of either States? Truly nothing. For having waſted about thirty millions of Money upon thoſe

thoſe fruitleſs Deſigns; and not gained a Foot of Land in any of thoſe Realms, but the loſs of a great part of the *ſeventeen Provinces*, with whom, having broken his Oath ſolemnly ſworn to them in his Inauguration, they (by the Aid of *England* and *France*) freed themſelves from his unjuſt Oppreſſion and Tyranny.

Neither did the Divine Juſtice ſuffer him ſo to eſcape, but raiſed a Fire in his own Houſe. For whereas he had Iſſue by his firſt Wife *Mary*, the Daughter of *John* the Third, King of *Portugal*, one only Son, called *Charles* (a Prince of admirable towardlineſs) He (during the Life of our Queen *Mary*, his ſecond Wife) treated a Marriage for his Son with *Elizabeth*, the eldeſt Daughter of *Henry* the Second, King of *France*; during which Treaty, our Queen *Mary* dying, he himſelf married her who was deſigned for his Son (a Lady of admirable Beauty and Parts:) They often in private, never forgetting their old affections, lamented their unhappy loſs each of other. The Son alſo deteſted his Fathers cruelty, and butchery by the mercileſs Inquiſitors! This ſo enraged his jealous Father, that he impriſon'd him, and delivered him over into the Inquiſitors Hands,

Hands, by whom he was condemned, *Anno Chriſti*, 1568. and a few days after he ſent to him to chooſe his own Death, who in a warm Bath cauſed his Veins to be opened, and ſo dyed. A while after (though ſhe was great with child) he cauſed his Queen to drink a Cup of poiſon, which ſoon diſpatched her.

144. King *Philip*'s fourth Wife was *Anne*, the Daughter of *Mary*, the Empreſs, his own natural Siſter, by whom he had Iſſue *Ferdinand* and *James*, both cut off by Death in their Infancy, and *Philip*, who being the only ſurviving Iſſue of this inceſtuous match, ſucceeded his Father in his Dominions, but not altogether in his cruelties.

145. *Rodulph* the Second, Emperor of *Germany*, not following the ſteps of the wiſe *Maximilian* his Father, but of the aforeſaid *Philip* his Brother in Law, ſought by all ſecret and hoſtile means to enervate, and root out Religion in the Empire: What got he by it, but to have Gods curſe denounced in Scripture fulfilled upon him? *That the elder ſhould ſerve the younger.* For *Mathias* the Arch-Duke of *Auſtria*, raiſing an Army in the year 1608. and joining his Forces with thoſe of the oppreſſed Proteſtant

ſtants in *Bohemia*, hem'd up his Brother *Rodulph* in *Prague*, got the Kingdom of *Hungary* from him in preſent poſſeſſion, and the Empire in reverſion, leaving him nothing but the complement of Majeſty, which he did not long ſurvive, and could never revenge that affront.

146. We need not look into ancient Hiſtories of Gods Judgments upon Heathen perſecuting Emperors: we may ſee the ſad ſucceſſes of the Princes of the houſe of *Valois* in *France*. King *Henry* the Second of *France* was meanly married to *Katherine de Medices* (the Niece of *Pope Clement* the Seventh) during the Life of the *Dolphin* his elder Brother, who was afterwards poiſoned. And *Francis* the firſt, his Father deceaſing, he ſucceeded, and ſwayd the *French* Scepter for diverſe years, with much Tranquility and happineſs, till (loathing the Coiture of his Queen, unfit indeed for a Princes bed) he grew highly enamoured on *Picciavia* of *Valence*, a woman of exquiſite Beauty, and good extraction, with whom he long after lived in continual Adultery, and was by her enticed to perſecute and ſlay the Proteſtants, *Anno Chriſti* 1553. that ſo by the confiſcation of their Lands and Goods, ſhe might

might enrich her ſelf, and her Kindred. This Perſecution put a Period to all his former Victories, and the next year was followed with the loſs of the City of *Seins* in *Italy* to the *Spaniard*: The Death of the old gallant General *Leo Strozzi* by a baſe hand, and the overthrow of his *French* Army by *James de Medices*.

147. *Anno Chriſti* 1556. The violence of perſecution was again renewed againſt the Proteſtants, and the very next year after (as before) God again gave up the *French* Army to the ſlaughter of the *Spaniards* and *Dutch* at the Siege and Battel of S. *Quintins*, in which were above three thouſand ſlain upon the place, and many of them men of note, and ſoon after the Town was taken by Storm: Alſo *Annas* Duke *de Memorancy* himſelf, the Conſtable of *France*: The Marſhal of S. *Andrew*: the Duke of *Longevile*, *Gaſpar de Coligne*, Earl of *Caſtilion* and Admiral of *France*, and a number others of the great Peers were all taken Priſoners. In ſum, the loſs and ſlaughter was ſo great, and fatal to the *French*, as it well-near equalled that Victory obtained by the Duke of *Bourbon* at the Battel of *Pavia* in *Italy* againſt *Francis* the firſt, his Father. Yet *Henry* the

the Second ſtill ſhut his eyes againſt the cauſe of theſe loſſes, and having his heart cauterized by his Luſts, he not only cauſed the godly to be committed to the Flames, but himſelf would needs be a Spectator of their Torments as a pleaſing ſight, and had combined with *Philip* King of *Spain*, his new Son in Law, for the utter ruine and final ſubverſion of *Geneva*.

Nay, but a few hours before his Death, *Anno* 1559. *Lodovick Faber*, and *Annas Burgus*, two Senators of *Paris*, becauſe they had ſpoken a little freely in defence of the innocency and piety of the Proteſtants in the open Senate, were caſt into Priſon by his ſpecial Command, in the *Baſtile* of the ſame City, by *Gabriel* Earl of *Mongomery*, one of the Captains of his Guard. And the perſecution of all others of the ſame Profeſſion grew ſo hot and furious: when the King *June* the nine and twentieth, the ſame year, running at Tilt with the very ſame Earl of *Mongomery*, and near the very *Baſtile* where the ſaid Senators were Priſoners, was ſtruck with a ſplinter of *Mongomery*'s Spear, through the Eye into his Brain, and never had the happineſs to ſpeak one word after, though he ſurvived the wound a few days; Nor to acknowledge his

his former Luſt and Cruelty.

148. And if we farther look to Gods Hand that followed this Prince in his Poſterity, it will yet ſeem the greater miracle. For of five Sons that he had, all ſave one dyed without lawful Iſſue to ſurvive them, ad three of them by violent Deaths, and in his Poſterity ended the *Valetian* Line, the Crown thereupon devolving to the Royal Branch of *Cleremont*, commonly called *Bourbon*, whom his Sons had moſt bitterly hated and perſecuted. And of all his five Daughters, three dyed iſſueleſs, and the eldeſt (the Queen of *Spain* aforementioned) that had Iſſue was cut off by poiſon. Nay, his very Baſtard Son, *Henry* of *Engoliſm*, a great Actor in the *Pariſian* Maſſacre, periſhed alſo by the ſtab of *Philip Altovit*, a *Florentine*, his old and mortal Enemy, *Anno Chriſti* 1586. during the Reign of *Henry* the Third, his Brother.

149. *Charles* the Ninth (third Son of the ſaid *Henry* the Second) who ſucceeded his Brother *Francis* the Second, *Anno Chriſti* 1560. had he continued his Reign with as much Mercy and Wilſdom as he began it, when he followed the grave and ſeaſonable adviſe of *Michael Hoſpitalius*, his Chancellor, probably he had lived more virtuouſly

tuouſly and dyed leſs miſerably. But he had ſcarce raigned two years in Peace and Plenty, when *Katherine de Medices*, his Mother (deſiring to get the Regency into her own Hands by raiſing combuſtions in the Kingdom) perſwaded this her Son to revive thoſe Perſecutions againſt the Proteſtants which his Father had begun. She alſo reconciled Her ſelf to *Charles Lorainer*, Duke of *Guiſe*, whom a little before ſhe had feared and hated, being a ſecret Enemy to *Lewis de Cleremont*, Prince of *Conde*. He and the Marſhal of S. *Andrew* having gained *Annas Momorancy*, Conſtable of *France* to their party, they all conſpired together for the ruine of the Truth. The Proteſtants in the mean time, ſeeing the King in his minority, held (as it were) captivated by this *Triumvirate*, took up Arms by the Queen-Mothers own inſtigation, to maintain the Kings Edict of Pacification, which was publiſhed *Anno Chriſti* 1561. commonly called, *The Edict of January*.

The year following, by the inſtigation of the ſaid *Triumvirate*, not only the Queen-Mother, but *Anthony de Cleremont*, King of *Navar* alſo (who yet dyed a Proteſtant) was drawn on to aſſail thoſe of the Religion

Religion with open force, they in the mean time filling the Queen-Mothers ear with theſe vain Flatteries, that ſhe ſhould ſoon ſee the utter ruine of all the *Heretick*s in *France*: From which time that goodly, rich, peaceable, and flouriſhing Kingdom, for almoſt forty years together (ſome ſhort pauſes excepted) was filled with Cruelties, Ravages, Raviſhments, Murthers, Battles, Fires, Slaughters, and all other calamities that attend a civil War: In the end of all which, the Proteſtants being increaſed in their ſtrength and numbers, obtained a more firm and advantagious peace than ever they had before: whereas thoſe three incendiaries who had been the Authors of all theſe miſeries, periſhed within a few years after, by the juſt Judgment of God in the very act when they were purſuing the godly party. For the Marſhal of S. *Andrew* was ſlain in the Battle of *Dreux*: *Annas de Momorancy* under the very walls of *Paris*, and *Francis Lorainer*, Duke of *Guiſe*, was piſtoled by *John Poltrot* whileſt he belieged *Orleans*.

King *Charles* ſeeing that by open force he could not eradicate and deſtroy the truth, nor root out the Profeſſors of it, about two years before the helliſh Maſſacre be-

gun at *Paris*, and profecuted (to the perpetual infamy of *France*) in diverſe other Cities, held a ſecret Council in the Caſtle of *Blois*, with *Katherine de Medices*, his Mother, *Alexander*, and *Hercules* (called alſo *Henry* and *Francis*) his Brothers, and *Henry Lorainer*, Heir to the ſaid Duke *Francis* aforementioned, by what means they might beſt draw the Proteſtants into their toil to murther and deſtroy them. The ſame Council was again held in the houſe of *Hieronimo de Gondy* at S. *Clou*, and the time and order of the bloody Marriage Banquet to be ſerved in at the Nuptials of the King of *Navar* with the Lady *Margaret*, the *French* Kings Siſter, almoſt in the ſame manner and order as it was afterwards put in execution on *Bartholomews* Day, *Anno Chriſti* 1572. In which were moſt inhumanely murthered, of men, women, and children (many alſo of them being great and honourable Perſonages) of either Sex about thirty thouſand. And while the Duke of *Guiſe* was profecuting that moſt inhumane Butchery, a Cabinet Council was held in the Queen-Mothers Chamber, whether it were not neceſſary that both the Duke, and the reſt of his Family who were then preſent, ſhould not be diſpatched

at

at the ſame time in that diſorderly tumult.

King *Charles* himſelf never ſaw good day after this bloody Maſſacre, though the *Court-Sycophants* had promiſed him that it ſhould prove the firſt happy day of his abſolute Monarchy. For though he had been long drenched in Luſt (a ſin ſeldom ſeparated from a Perſecutor) by his ordinary Adultery with a mean Wench of *Orleance*, of whom he begat *Charles* of *Engoliſm*, afterwards Earl of *Auvern:* And though he had been trained up by his Mother to ſee the ſlaughter of Beaſts; and ever in his Chaſes had been accuſtomed to bath his hands in the Blood of the ſlain Game (which might have ſerved to ſtupifie his Conſcience, as they did inflame his fierce and cruel nature, yet) a very ſtinging remorſe in his Conſcience, did ever purſue and haunt him after that mercileſs ſlaughter, brought about, chiefly by his own ſwearing and forſwearing, (by which the King of *Navar*, and the Admiral *Coligni* were deceived) His eyes ever rolled up and down uncertainly in the Day-time with fear and ſuſpition, and his ſleep was uſually interrupted in the night with diſmal Dreams and Apparitions (like

our King *Richard* the Third of *England* after he had murthered his two Nephews in the Tower) Nay, though he ſurvived that Maſſacre not fully two years, yet had he in that time plotted the death of the ſaid *Henry*, Duke of *Guiſe*, and the removal of the Queen-Mother, and her Inſtruments from the Helm of State: But as he, a little before the Maſſacre had poiſoned that incomparable Princeſs for Learning and Piety, *Joan*, Queen of *Navar*: So did his Mother, or the Duke of *Guiſe* (by way of prevention, or anticipation) miniſter to him his fatal ſharp *Phiſick*, of which (after many and grievous torments) he deceaſed upon *Whitſunday*, *Anno Chriſti* 1574. being not full twenty five years old.

150. The Queen-Mother, the Kings two Brethren, the Cardinal, and the Duke of *Guiſe*, that had not only joined with him in his Perſecution, but encouraged him to it, they ſtill ſurvived, and for ought men ſaw, were firmly ſetled in Peace and Proſperity: Though *Guiſe* might have taken warning by the Death of *Claude*, Duke of *Aumal*, his Brother, ſlain with a Musket-Bullet from the walls of *Rochel*,

as

as he lay in Siege before it, *Anno Chriſti* 1573.

151. *Henry* his Brother, who ſucceeded King *Charles*, was not long before choſen King of *Poland*, where he then was; but hearing of the Death of his Brother, he clandeſtinly ſtole away from that Kingdom to return to *France*. In his return the good Emperor *Maximilian* the Second, and the *Venetian* State, earneſtly adviſed him to maintain the former Edicts of Pacification inviolably, and not force the Conſciences of men in matters of Religion; Of the ſame Opinion alſo were all his wiſeſt Councellors, who ſaw plainly that the encreaſing of the Proteſtants was the only means now left under Heaven to draw the *Pope* and his *Conclave* to yield ſome Reformation of the Church, which it needed exceedingly. But his Mother adviſed him by all means to root out the Profeſſors of the truth by Fire and Sword. And others there were of looſe and *Atheiſtical* Lives, as *Henry* Duke of *Guiſe*; *Lewis* the Cardinal of *Guiſe*; *Renalt Villoclare* (A man, ſaith the incomparable Monſieur *de Thou*, fatally preferr'd to be an attendant upon this King by his Mother) and diverſe others, who perſwaded the King to break the aforeſaid

ſaid Edicts for Pacification, and never to ſheath his Sword till he had utterly ruined all the Proteſtants in *France*: And the King, being of a weak, and degenerate Spirit, the Houſe of *Guiſe* (being the Arch-enemies of the Goſpel) became at length ſo potent, and triumphed ſo notoriouſly over the impotency of the King, that at laſt they forced him to ſeek to thoſe very Proteſtants for ſupport, againſt whom he had taken a Solemn Oath for their utter deſtruction.

Infinite almoſt were the Treaſures which he ſpent upon his Minions and Pleaſures (His expenſes upon his Dogs only, amounted in thoſe times to twenty thouſand pounds yearly at the leaſt) but moſt was exhauſted in the proſecution of his Wars againſt the Proteſtants.

152. *Guiſe*, and his Faction now grown ſtrong, and aſſured of ſupport from King *Philip* the Second of *Spain*, after he had expelled his King out of *Paris*, and heaped a world of other inſolent affronts upon him, was drawn by him, *Anno Chriſti* 1588. to the Aſſembly then held at *Blois*. He came thither with his Brother *Lewis Lorainer*, Cardinal of *Guiſe*, and *Charles*, Prince of *Ionvile*, his Son, upon the ſame Royal Aſ-

ſurance

ſurance of ſafety, with which *Charles* the Ninth, had (by his adviſe) deceived the Proteſtants before the abhorred Maſſacre in the year 1572. But during this Aſſembly this Duke of *Guiſe* was ſlain, againſt the *Publick Faith* given him, not only within the Caſtle of *Blois*, but in that very room, wherein ſixteen years before he had adviſed the bloody Maſſacre of *Paris* to be executed. Two circumſtances alſo do add much horror to the puniſhment it ſelf: One was that he was but newly riſen from the bed of his adulterate Luſt, having not been able before this night, to conquer the chaſtity of a Gentlewoman that waited on the Queen-Mother: and therefore was ſo eager in reaping the fruits of his long Siege, that he came not to the Council Chamber, till he was oft ſent for, and even then ſcarcely ready: The other was in the manner of his firſt wound, which was given him in his Throat, and immediately cauſed the Blood ſo abundantly to ſtream out of his Mouth, as he never had time ſo much as to call upon God for mercy or forgiveneſs, but ſpent his laſt minute in endeavouring to revenge himſelf upon his Murtherers.

153. A while after the Cardinal of *Guiſe*, his

his Brother (who had been a great Gameſter at Cards and Dice; periſhed alſo in the ſame Caſtle of *Blois* by a violent Death. *Katherine de Medices*, the Queen-Mother, who had been the chief cauſe for thirty years together of the ſhedding of ſo much innocent Blood, being preſent at the ſame time in the ſaid Caſtle, ſtormed ſecretly that ſo great an action ſhould be entred into, and effected without her advice: And when ſhe heard that *Charles Lorainer*, Duke of *Main* was eſcaped, (being the younger Brother to the murthered Duke of *Guiſe*) ſhe preſaged to the King her Son, the ſad Iſſue of that raſh attempt, which he (as it ſeems) interpreting to be rather the expreſſion of her wiſhes than her fears; and having by many woful experiences, ſeen the effects of her revengful *Italian* Spirit, took a courſe to pacify her wrath: For not long after, ſhe there ended her unhappy Life, by poiſon (ſaith *Elias Reuſner*) in the ſame Caſtle alſo, where ſhe held the firſt ſecret and bloody Council for the execution of the aforeſaid bloody Maſſacre. *Francis* her youngeſt Son dyed before her, *June* the tenth, *Anno* 1584. in the one and thirtieth year of his Age, of a violent poiſon, probably miniſtred to him by ſome of the

Hiſpaniolized

Hispaniolized Guisards, so that it caused very much Blood to issue out of his Body in several places, the sight of which purple streams might well call upon him to remember with what inhumane Pride he trampled upon the bloody streets of *Paris* in the great slaughter committed upon Gods Saints and Martyrs about twelve years before.

154. There now only remained *Henry* the Third, the *French* King, alive, of all the first contrivers, and principal Executioners of that inhumane Massacre, which no Age, no Time, no Action of the most Barbarous Nations of the world could ever parallel, till that horrid Massacre of the bloody *Irish* upon the *English* Protestants in the year 1641. *October* 23. wherin above one hundred and fifty thousand perished in one of the four Provinces of that Kingdom, after the most savage and barbarous manner that ever was read of.

155. *Charles Lorainer*, Duke of *Main* was presently upon the death of his Brother made General of the *Holy League*, (as they stiled it) And *Paris* it self, and in a manner all the *Popish* Cities beyond the *Loir* giving up their Names and Forces to that Faction, supported from *Rome* by *Pope Sixtus*

Sixtus the Fifth, and from *Spain* by *Philip* the Second.

156. When the King saw that neither his acting the *Monk* with the *Flagellators*, nor his playing the Devil against the Protestants, could secure him from a speedy ruine by the violent hands of Rebels; He sent to the victorious King of *Navar* (his Brother in Law) and to the Protestant Army, before whose known valour the *Popish* Forces hastened back from the *Loyer* to the *Seine*; *Henry* the Third pursued them, and pitched his Royal Pavilion at S. *Clou*, not far from the Gates of *Paris*. But his former cruelties, and persecutions of the godly, were doubtless the hinderances of his new expected Victories, and the Divine Providence so ordered it that in the very place where the last resolution was taken by himself, his Mother, his Brethren, and others for the speedy Execution of that brutish Massacre, about seventeen years before, nay in the very same House of *Jerom de Gondy*, and in the very same Room and Chamber (saith *John de Serres*) was murthered by *James Clement*, a *Jesuited Monk*, *Anno Christi* 1589. and in the nine and thirtieth year of his Age.

This

This *Aſſaſination* was promoted by *Pope Sixtus* the Fifth, by the ſeditious Sermons of *Jeſuits*, *Prieſts*, and *Friars*, and by the perſecution of *Katherine Mary*, Ducheſs of *Mompenſier*, Siſter of the ſlain Duke of *Guiſe*, who was ſo horribly tranſported with malice againſt the Proteſtants, and with deſire of revenge upon the King, as ſhe proſtitued her Body to that *Jeſuited Goat*, to encourage him the more to that horrid murther, and by that means to ſtupify and harden his Soul by his filthy Luſt, that it might not ſtartle at any other wickedneſs whatſoever. Yet as this King ſome Months before his Death had altered his former bloody reſolution againſt the Proteſtants; ſo did the Divine Providence at his Death afford him ſome hours of Repentance, after the bloody knife had been ſheathed in his Belly; in which time he acknowledged his ſin, and his error in having been ſo long miſs-lead by his ambitious and malicious Counſellors, and his ſin in having perſecuted his Proteſtant Subjects, and for having enforced the Conſcience of many to ſubmit to *Popery* againſt the known Truth by threats and cruelty.

157. Our Queen *Mary* began her Reign with

with the breach of her *Publick Faith*. For whereas the Crown was ſet upon her head by the Gentry and Commons of *Suffolk*, (although they knew her to be a *Papiſt* (which ſhews that the godly Proteſtants, whatſoever is ſuggeſted to the contrary by Luſtful, Prophane, and *Popiſhly* affected Perſons, are the beſt Subjects that any Sovereign can be happy in) yet ſhe, in one of her firſt Acts of Council, took order for their reſtraint, long before the *Maſs* and *Latine Service* were generally received in *London*, and cauſed that Dioceſs to taſt the ſharpeſt Inquiſition, and Perſecution that raged during her Reign, which was happily ſhortened by her Husbands contemning her Perſon, and her Enemies conquering her Dominions, neither of which ſhe had power either to recover, or revenge: So that though ſhe dyed not by any outward violence, yet was her end as inglorious and miſerable, as her Reign had been turbulent and bloody. She might have taken warning by the ſudden, and immature Death of King *James* the Fifth of *Scotland*, her Coulin German, who, raiſing a perſecution there, againſt his Loyal and innocent Subjects that were Proteſtants, *Anno Chriſti* 1539. burning ſome, exiling, and impriſoning

ſoning others, and forcing many to blaſpheme, in abjuring the known truth; and all by advice and procurement of *James Beaton*, Arch-Biſhop of S. *Andrews*, and *David Beaton*, *Abbot* of *Arbroth*, his Brother, never ſaw good day after: For two brave young Princes his Sons, were the year following, cut off by untimely ends in their Cradles: Wars to his great diſadvantage and loſs were raiſed between him and our King *Henry* the Eighth, his Uncle, and all things fell out ſo croſs to his haughty and vaſt mind as that it haſtened his Death, which fell out *Anno Chriſti* 1542. *See more of him before.*

Many alſo are the Examples of Gods ſevere, but righteous Judgments of God upon *Popiſh* perſecuting Prelates, whereof you have ſtore of inſtances in my two *Martyrologies*, and in my two Vollumes of *Examples*: I ſhall content my ſelf for the preſent with two or three, which though briefly ſet down there, yet here more largely.

158. *Thomas Arundal*, Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*, having been the ſucceſsful Traytor, by the help of his Reverend Fellow-Biſhops, to eſtabiſh *Henry* the Fourth in the Throne of King *Richard* the Second, his

his Liege Lord, and Couſin German, preſſed the new King (whoſe broken Title needed the ſupportments of his Prelates) to uſe his temporal Sword for the deſtruction of the Diſciples of *John Wickliff*, whoſe numbers at that time were ſo encreaſed that they even filled the Kingdom: The King aſſented. and having by their cruel inſtigation, ſhed the blood of many of Gods Saints, his Reign proved neither long nor proſperous.

159. King *Henry* the Fifth. his Son, a brave and marſhal Prince, ſucceeding him, the Proteſtants began to meet more publickly, and to profeſs the Truth more openly than before. The Arch-Biſhop thereupon renews his former Suit to the Son, as he had before ſucceſsfully preſſed upon the Father. In particular, he firſt aimed at the deſtruction of Sir *John Oldcaſtle (See his Life in my ſecond Volume of Lives)* who had moſt affronted him. He, by reaſon of his great Alliances, and the favour of his King, who called him *His Knight*, might have expected exemption from their Tyranny: But they prevailed with the King (as ſaith Arch-Biſhop *Parker*) *Rex virum clarum, ſibique familiariſſimum, Epiſcoporum poteſtati, & carniſicinæ permiſit*

permiſit: The King gave up this famous man, and who was dear to himſelf, to the power, and deſtruction of the Biſhops: And yet it pleaſed God that he outlived this perſecuting Arch-Prelate two years at leaſt. For the Arch-Biſhop having murthered many godly Saints in King *Henry* the Fourths time, and being a great ſtickler in ſtate affairs, having long before procured himſelf to be made Lord Chancellour of *England*, and laſtly (in a *Synod* held by himſelf at *Rocheſter*) having forbidden the reading of the Scriptures in *Engliſh*, and limited Preachers, under an heavy cenſure, what they ſhould treat of in the Pulpit, was ſoon cut off himſelf by the immediate hand of God, after he had condemned that warlike Kinght, Sir *John Old-Caſtle*, Lord *Cobham*, before he could ſee him executed. For his Tongue was ſo ſwoln, and benummed that he could neither ſwallow, nor ſpeak, ſome days before his Death: It being (ſaith one) the juſt Judgment of God upon him (and may be a warning to all other wicked *Popiſh Prelates*) that as he had muzled up the mouths of Preachers, and kept the Scriptures from the knowledge of the people, being their ſpiritual food. So he ſhould neither be able to

ſwallow

ſwallow nor ſpeak, from that very minute that this Judgment fell upon him, and ſo he dyed within a few days after, in great torment, and extremity, by a languiſhing ſilence and famiſhment.

A later Example we have in the admirable puniſhment of *James Beton*, Arch-Biſhop of S. *Andrews* in *Scotland*, who was alſo a member of the purpurated *Conclave* at *Rome*. He had for diverſe years been an inveterate Enemy to the Goſpel, and the Profeſſors of it in that Kingdom under King *James* the Fifth: And after his Death, taking the advantage of the infancy of the Princeſs *Mary*, the Hereditary Queen of that Realm, he thought it a work worthy of himſelf, to double die his Purple Robes in the Blood of the Saints: And to make a full and clear way for that his ſanguinary Project, he forged a *Will* of the deceaſed King, whereby he was eſtabliſhed the chief Regent there, during the young Ladies incapacity to Reign: From which yet, his falſe play being diſcovered, he was removed, and for a while impriſoned: Yet was he no ſooner delivered, but he preſently endeavoured to raiſe a new and a fatal war between *England* and *Scotland*, and to root out the Profeſſors of

the

the Truth by a violent and bloody Perſecution. And among others whom he cited, impriſoned, or exiled in the year 1545. he ſeized upon Mr. *George Wiſeheart* (a very eloquent and learned Preacher) who by the *Latin* Writers of that age is called *Sophocardius*, and contrary to their own *Popiſh* Canons, adjudged him to preſent death himſelf, which is never done, except by the helliſh Inquiſition of *Spain*, but by delivering the Martyrs into the power of the Civil-Magiſtrate; And in his Court before the Caſtle of S. *Andrews*, cauſed that bloody Sentence to be executed, the ſaid Mr. *Wiſeheart* being firſt ſtrangled, and his Body afterwards burnt to Aſhes; The Cardinal in the mean time had a Chamber prepared for him, with Carpets and Cuſhions in the Windows, out of which he was a Triumphant Spectator of this godly mans Martyrdom: From which window he departed, not more delighted, than (as himſelf thought) ſecured; and preſently he began to fortify his Caſtle againſt all Aſſaults.

But Gods Judgment from Eternity awarded againſt him, for this later, as well as former cruelties exerciſed upon his faithful Servants, ſlep'd not. For within a few

weeks after, the Cardinal having falsified his Promise to the Lord *Norman Lesly*, Son of the Earl of *Rothsay*, a zealous *Romanist*; He upon the thirteenth day of *May*, the same year, with about fourteen resolute Gentlemen in his company, entred the said Castle of S. *Andrews*, where the Cardinal lay (having had a whore with him all that night) and having first assured himself of all within, and the Gates without, he slew the bloody Prelate by his Bed-side without Law or Justice, who had but a little before, most unjustly condemned and murthered the aforesaid Mr. *Wiseheart*, and being willing to expose the dead Carcass of that cruel Persecutor (all weltring and besmeared with blood) unto the view of the People (who abhorred his Butcheries, and rejoiced at his fall) casually they laid it along, to be seen of all men in that very window, out of which a little before, leaning at his ease upon rich Cushions, he had proudly beheld the death of that precious Martyr.

161. Its very observable which Historians take notice of, that generally the greatest Persecutors are most drenched in the sin of uncleanness, and *Epicurism*. What was *Escovedo*, that great Instrument of the King of *Spain*'s cruelties against the Evangelical

gelical Party in the *Low-Countries*, but a a very Lump of Luſt, which in the end proved fatal to him?

162. *Peter Eſpinac*, A Biſhop of *Lions* in *France*, was a great Perſecutor, and one that lived in inceſt with his own Siſter.

163. *John* Arch-Biſhop of S. *Andrews* in *Scotland*, ſpent the greateſt part of the Revenues of his See, and the ſeiſure of the Proteſtants Eſtates (whoſe mortal Enemy he was) upon his Whores and Revellings.

164. The Cardinal of *Granvels* Veneries were ſo manifeſt and numerous, as when *Anno Chriſti* 1574. the Kingdom of *Tunis*, and the ſtrong Fort of *Gulette* (formerly eſteemed impregnable) were won by the *Turks*; the *Spaniards* made a jeſt of it,& ſaid openly, *That the Cardinals Breeches, had occaſioned that loſs*, meaning thereby, that King *Philip* the Second, relying chiefly upon his advice in that, and in moſt of the reſt of his important affairs, the Cardinals Luſts ſo took him up, that he had not leiſure to adviſe the King for the beſt.

165. Cardinal *Beton* (aforementioned) wallowed at home with pollution among his Harlots, and raged abroad with the blood and ſlaughter of the innocent Servants of Chriſt.

166. In that Helliſh Maſſacre on S. *Bartholomew*'s Day, in *Paris* it ſelf: The Murtherers there, were for the moſt part, brutiſh and luſtful Soldiers, or profane Varlets of the ſcum of the City, and though their Leaders were more noble, yet leſs virtuous. The Duke of *Guiſe*, and *Aumale*, *Albert*, *Gondy*, Earl of *Rets*, *Tavanne*, and others of them that were bred up in Luſt, Revellings, and all manner of Debaucheries.

167. The next place that came neareſt to the cruelties exerciſed at *Paris*, was the City of *Lions*, where the numbers of the ſlain and maſſacred was ſo great, that their Bodies being thrown into the river *Rhodanus*, or *Roſne*, ſtained and corrupted the water, the violence of which ſtream, carrying them down by heaps to *Tornon*, (where the Inhabitants, not knowing what they were, but fearing that it proceeded from invaſion by Enemies, and Robbers, aſſembled themſelves in Arms together for their mutual defence.) The chief Ring-leaders, and Abettors of which Butchery (Monſieur *de Thou*, a Papiſt, yet an incomparable Hiſtorian, confeſſeth) to have been *Boidon*, *Mormieu*, and *Clou*, three of the moſt wicked, and vileſt Varlets that a Kingdom could harbour; which *Boidon* was

was afterwards executed at *Clermont* in *Auvergne*: And if *Mormieu* escaped a shameful end, yet surely he deserved it as well as his Fellow Persecutor, having before (as *Semanus* confesseth) procured the murther of his own Father?

At *Tholous* also, a few days after, a great slaughter of the godly was committed; not by the better sort of Citizens, or sober, or morally virtuous *Papists*; but by one *Turry*, and a number of other infamous, and lewd persons like himself, who joined themselves together for the effecting of that bloody execution.

The like Villany was perpetrated and done at the great City of *Roan* in *Normandy*, by one *Maronie*, a most infamous Ruffian, and a great many of other base Varlets, who flocked to him as to their chief Ringleader.

168. But in none of them were these two hellish sins of Adultery and Blood more eminently coupled together than in *Paygillard*, the Master Butcher at *Angiers*, who having long continued in the sin of Adultery, was at last enticed by his Harlot, to murther his own wife.

169. In *France*, after this barbarous and cruel Massacre, the eighth day of *November* following, there appeared a dreadful Comet,

cerning which, a Learned Proteſtant, preſently after publiſhed an elaborate *Poem*, wherein he preſaged, that it was Gods Herald or Meſſenger to denounce his Judgment quickly to enſue upon that Kingdom for their late inhumane Butcheries. Theſe Verſes were ſcarcely come abroad, when there ſuddenly broke out in *Poicton*, a new, dreadful, and before unknown Diſeaſe, commonly called *the Poictovin Chollick*, which miſerably waſted that goodly Kingdom for above thirty years after. This Diſeaſe was accompanied with many extreme pains and torments, not only in the outward Parts of the Body, but alſo in the inward and Vitals, inſomuch as it drew on diverſe horrid Convulſions, and in many, blindneſs before it killed them. The ſtrange Original, the hidden nature, and thoſe unparallel'd torments which it produced, ſometimes reſembling the very ſtabs, and gaſhes made with Swords, and Ponyards, gave all impartial judgments juſt ground to conclude, that it was the finger of God himſelf in puniſhing the mercileſs Murthers of his Dear Saints.

170. But though the brutiſh, goatiſh *Papiſts* were ſo cruel and inhumane, yet others there were of more moral and moderate

rate Principiples, who in their very Souls abhorred and deteſted thoſe barbarous practices. Monſieur *de Thou* in his unparallel'd Hiſtory tells us, that himſelf was about nineteen years old when that horrible and Helliſh Maſſacre was committed in *Paris* on S. *Bartholomews Day*, which fell out that year on the *Lords Day*, and did in his very ſoul abhor the cruelty and ſavageneſs thereof, when in his paſſage through the ſtreets to *Mattins* that Morning, he met with diverſe Villains, dragging along the dead Body of *Hierom Grolet*, late Governour of *Orleance*, all weltring with gaſtly wounds in his own Blood: At which ſight his Heart relenting, and mourning inwardly, not daring to ſhed tears publickly, he haſtened home to the Houſe of *Chriſtopher de Thou*, his Father, who at that time was the chief Preſident of the Parliament in *Paris*, there freely to deplore that execrable Butchery; as did alſo the ſaid *Chriſtopher*, his Father.

171. *Vidus Faber Pibratius*, *John Merviller*, *Belleureu*, all eminent men, with all the judicious, and morally virtuous *Papiſts* in that City, did Chriſtianly hide, and ſo preſerved many Proteſtants from a wretchleſs maſſacring. Nay, *Arman Guntald*, the old Marſhal *Biron* (Father of *Charles*, Duke of

Biron, that was beheaded in King *Henry* the Fourth's time) when the Deputies of *Rochel* came to him, some few weeks after that bloody Execution, to treat of a peaceable accomodation of their affairs, he shed many tears in their presence upon his execrating the Authors of that Cruelty, and acknowledged the great Mercy of God to him that he neither knew of it, nor had any hand in it.

At the City of *Lions* also, where the inhumanity of the Murtherers almost equalled that of *Paris*, *Mandelot* the Governor there, did his best to have prevented it, and in his Heart (with many other grave and sober Gitizens of the *Romish* Religion) utterly detested it. And when the slaughtered Bodies that were tumbled into the River of *Rosne*, were carried down with the stream to *Tornon*, *Valence*, *Vienne*, and *Burg*, contiguous to the same River, the *Papists* there, generally detested the cruelty thereof: And at *Arles*, where for want of Springs, and Ponds they had most use of that River water; yet they so much abhorred that Butchery, as they would neither drink thereof, nor yet eat any of the Fish taken therein, for diverse days after: And generally in all *Provence*, those of the *Romish* Religion drew the mangled Bodies out of the water, and with great humanity interred them. 172,

172. Monsieur *Carragie*, a Noble Gentleman, who was Governour of the great City of *Roan* in *Normandy*, did likewise oppose the Massacres there to the utmost of his power. As did also *James Benedict Largahaston*, the Prime Senator of *Burdeaux*, who thereby became himself in danger to have been slain by those seditious Varlets, who at first had been stirred up to commit those outrages by the seditious Sermons of a lustful *Jesuite*, called *Eminund Auger*.

173. *Claudus*, Earl of *Tende*, a Descendant of the illustrious House of *Savoy*, Governour of *Provence*, Monsieur *de Gordes*, Governour of *Daulphany*, Monsieur *Sauteran*, Governour of *Auvergne*, and *Francis* Duke of *Memorancy*, absolutely refused to suffer any Massacres to be committed in such places as were under any of their Governments: So as the *Rochellers* in their Declaration set out the same year, do acknowledge that all such *Romanists*, who had but any humanity left in them, did in their Hearts abhor, and with their Mouths detest those abominable outrages and hellish cruelties.

174. And as the soberer and modester sort of *Papists* abhorred such brutishness, so also they disswaded from the same.

That

That Noble Gentleman *David Hamilton* gave this advice to *James*, Earl of *Arran*, then Regent of *Scotland Anno* 1545. when Cardinal *Beton* would have perſwaded him to have joined with him in the Perſecution and Slaughter of the godly in that Kingdom: *I cannot but wonder*, ſaid he, *that you ſhould give up the innocent Servants of God, againſt whom no Crime is objected, but the Preaching of the Goſpel, into the hands and power of men moſt infamous for Luſt, Cruelty, and all other wickedneſs; which in the mean time thoſe very Enemies of the Truth themſelves cannot deny that the lives of ſuch as profeſs this Doctrine which they ſo hate, are full of integrity and virtue: And therefore although the profane and bloody Prelates could never be drawn to pity Gods Children, much leſs to love them for their piety and innocency (being therein more inhumane than diverſe of the Heathen Emperors themſelves, who, upon the information of the virtuous and harmleſs deportment of the Chriſtians, by their Governours of Provinces, cauſed their Perſecutions to be ſlacked and ceaſed)* Yet diverſe Princes and moderate *Pontificians*, have been moved by the upright and honeſt lives of Gods Children to further their Liberty of Conſcience, and to abhor the cruelties which other Papiſts have practiſed upon them. 175.

175. *Maximilian* the Emperour, ſon of *Ferdinand* the Second, and *Francis* the Firſt, the *French* King were hence perſwaded to grant unto their own ſubjects freedom of Conſcience.

176. The Earl of *Egmont*, and *Horn* (though zealous *Papiſts*) laboured with the Dutcheſs of *Parma*, that the *Low-Country Proteſtants might be free from Fines, impriſonments, and all other manner of Perſecutions in reſpect of Religion.*

177. Under *Francis* the Second, the *French* King *Anno Chriſti* 1560. by the excellent and learned ſpeeches of *Charles Marillack*, Arch-Biſhop of *Vienne*, and *John de Monlu*, Biſhop of *Valence* freely ſpoken before the King himſelf in behalf of the *French* Proteſtants, all Perſecution againſt them was reſtrained. The ſaid Biſhop among other particulars, affirming boldly, that a great encreaſe of the Sectaries proceeded from the ignorance and evil lives of the Biſhops, who having laid aſide the care of their Flocks, had, for many years made it their buſineſs to enhanſe their Fines, and Rents, and to live deliciouſly, and looſely; ſo as there were ſometimes forty of them ſeen at once together, waſting their time in Luxury and idleneſs in *Paris*: the care of their Churches

Churches being in the mean time turned over to young and ignorant Fellows. And ſo the Biſhops becoming blind and uſeleſs; the *Pariſh Prieſts* alſo, following the Example of their Dioceſans, were only intent upon ſpoiling and vexing their people about their Tithes, but were wholly unskilful and negligent in preaching to them: And that therefore it was no wonder, though diverſe of the Nobility as well as of the common people, did ſo readily hearken to new Opinions, and Doctrines.

The ſame Counſel, that the Conſcience ought not to be forced, nor any to be perſecuted for matters of Religion meerly, did *Michael Hoſpitalius*, Chancellour of *France*, give unto *Charles* the Ninth, the ſame year that he ſucceded to the Crown, after the death of the ſaid *Francis*, his Brother.

178. By theſe foregoing Examples we may plainly ſee, that their ſelf-love, and wallowing in all manner of ſenſuality, is the great cauſe of their hatred to the godly, whoſe lives and principles oppoſe their wickedneſs and errors. The perſecutions of the *Arrians* againſt the *Orthodox*, exceeded the cruelty of the Heathen Emperours, but this of the *Romaniſts* far ſurpaſſeth and exceeds them both being joined together.

179. *Pope*

179. *Pope Paul* the Third, left this bloody Legacy to his Conclave when he dyed *Anno Chriſti* 1359. (as is teſtified by Mounſieur *de Thou*) For having called diverſe of the Cardinals into his Bed-chamber, he exhorted them by all means to continue and maintain the Office of the Inquiſition, as the only means left upon earth to eſtabliſh the *Romane* Religion.

180. It may cauſe wonder in any ſerious man to conſider that amongſt the *Turks*, *Jews*, *Indians*, yea, and the *Papiſts* themſelves, the moſt zealous, ſtrict, and preciſe in their ſeveral Religions, are the moſt eſteemed and honoured; and only in the greater part of the Proteſtant Churches, the moſt knowing and reſolute retainer, of the truth, and the moſt ſtrict and godly in their lives, are moſt hated, nick-named, diſgraced, and perſecuted: And Grace which ſhould add a luſtre to Learning, Riches, Honours, Noble Extraction, and all other outward endowments, whether natural or acquired, that alone obſcures all the reſt, and brings the contempt, not only of great ones, but even of the ſcum, and dregs of the multitude upon the perſons ſo qualified.

181. Sir *John Oldcaſtle*, Lord *Cobham*, in the Reign of our King *Henry* the Fifth, being

being convented before *Thomas Arundel*, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, and diverse other lustful and bloody Bishops, spake thus unto them: *Whilest I was*, said he, *a Swearer, a Rioter, and every way else vicious, you never reproved me, nor questioned me: But since I have embraced this despised Doctrine of* John Wickliff, *which hath taught me how to conquer my Sins, and to lead an honest and a godly life, now you are enraged against me with malice, and seek my destruction.*

182. The same observation was made by *Annas du Bourg*, that brave Senator of *Paris Anno Christi* 1559. under King *Henry* the Second of *France*: That there were many Adulteries, Perjuries, Oaths, and other infamous offences dayly committed, and already punishable by the Laws, and yet such as were guilty of all, or any of those crimes were countenanced and advanced: But against the Professors of the Truth all cruelty was practised, who were guilty of no other offence, but of embracing the truth of the Gospel revealed unto them by the Spirit, and Word of God, and of discovering, by the same Light, the horrible vices, and errors of the *Popish* power that so there might follow an amendment.

183. Experience sufficiently manifests that

that Perſecution hath never been a way to ſuppreſs the Truth; and ſurely its againſt the Dictates of Charity and Chriſtianity to enforce the conſcience without a full and clear conviction. This was confeſſed by King *Henry* the Third of *France* (one of the moſt impotent Princes (ſaith a learned Gentleman) that ever ſwayed that Scepter, and the moſt inveterate Enemy that ever the Proteſtants had, having been inſtructed to hate, betray, and perſecute them, by *Katherine de Medices*, his bloody Mother, even from his very cradle,) yet when *James Clement*, a *Jeſuited Monk*, had ſheathed a knife in his Bowels, and that he ſaw himſelf near to the Minute in which he was to give an account of all his cruelties to the ſupreme Judge of Heaven and Earth, he made an effectual ſpeech to the chief Commanders of his Army, being moſt of them *Papiſts:* wherein he exhorted them to acknowledge and obey the King of *Navar* (then a Proteſtant) as their lawful Soveraign, and the undoubted Heir of the *French* Crown: and to know this undoubted truth for the future: *That Religion which is inſtilled into the Souls of men by God himſelf, cannot be forced by man.*

184. The ſame Truth alſo, and almoſt in

in the same words did the Lord *Brederode*, and the other Protestants in the *Low-Countries* alledge for their just excuse in their joint *Apology*, published in the year 1566, and farther added: That if the *Papists* did conceive their Religion to be the Truth, they should instead of Blood, Fines, Imprisonings, and Banishments, take the good, and seasonable counsel of the Learned *Gamaliel*, and try a while, whether the Protestants separation from them, were of God or no. For otherwise, if by force, and tyranny they should compel them to profess and practice those actions in Gods Worship, which they accounted abominable; and should also restrain them from the practice of those Duties towards God, wherein they were convinced the truth of his Service consisted, their Consciences must needs be shipwrack'd and undone, and so instead of making them new Converts, they should leave them *Atheists* and *Libertines*.

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